

# Books on All of Maryland

Catholic Families of Southern, MD. Records of Catholic Residents [St. Mary's Co.] in Eighteenth Century

- St. Mary's County, Maryland Militia - 1794

Enrolled in the militia were:

[Peter Blair], Joseph Blair, James Blair, William Blair

Maryland - Oaths of Fidelity by Carothers.

- William Blair - Frederick County

John Blair, Charles Blair - Dorchester County

Matthew Blair - listed on Ancestry.com. Fidelity Oath 1778 [Newport West Hundred Charles Co.]

1778 Census of Maryland

- Matthew Blair - Newport West Hundred.

Maryland Soldiers Entitled to Lands West of Fort Cumberland

- John Blair

Private 7th Regiment #3023

- John Blair

Private 3rd Regiment #997

Early Families of Southern Maryland Vol. 7

- William Blair of Frederick Co. MD. is executor along with Wm. Shields to the will & estate of John Williams of Same County

Maryland Calendar of Wills 1764-1767 & 1767-1772

- William Blair is witness to Will of James Goddy - Frederick County 1763

Michael Finkle 1770 Fred. Turner Terer Frederick Co. 1768 Jonathan Oreadon Somerset Co. 1769

- Alexander Hanna will of 1765. of Baltimore. to "Grandchildren: Elizabeth & William Blair, children of Mary; to son David Blair's children."

]

1

1. Durham Par, West Hundred

2. (Permitted)

Newport West Hundred.

3. Transquakin Hundred

Maryland

merchant?

1 Slave

2

female [newly under]

3

3 males under 16, 4 females

18 more or female under 16, 3 under 3 females

1

23 under 16, 4 females, 2 slaves

under 16, 3 females, 4 slaves

under 16, 2 females.

0 census - why? listed  
else? with Joseph above - his.

female 26-45  
female 10-16  
females under 10

male 26-45  
males under 10

male 16-26  
male 45 and over (born before 1755)

Boguet, Hundred.  
male over 45  
male 16-26  
male under 10

male 16-45  
male 10-16

D. Emmitsburg  
male 16 to 26  
males under 10

large Co.  
males.

100 Co. Conocochee, Twm.

100 over 45  
100 16-26  
males 10-16  
male under 10

Co. Conocochee, Twm.  
male 26-45 (born 1755-1799)  
male under 10

175 Parish, Calvert Co.  
male over 45

Mary's 1 St. Mary's Co.  
William Blair (he died?)  
male 16-26 1 female over 45  
male 10-16 1 female under 10

Hist. of Western MD. pg. 1343 Allegany Co. John Blair land settler west of Cumberland - used Bounty land?

Revolutionary War Pension File of Joseph Clayton - National Archives

On 22 March 1851 Peter Blair of Washington Co. (Marion Co) Kentucky did an Affidavit attesting to names of heirs and knowledge of war service of Joseph Clayton. Peter Blair stated: "He knew Joseph Clayton dead, who was a soldier in the War of the Revolution. That he had a brother John Blair who entered the service at the same time and after the war was over, they both returned at the same time..." signed Peter X Blair

[Note: Clayton was in the Virginia line - access by from St. Marys Co. MD.] [Note: John Blair must have died before he left the pension]

Along the Potomac River - Extracts from the Maryland Gazette 1728-1799

- Matthew Blair 28 May 1789 - In Charles Co. - Town - Port Tobacco on which Matthew Blair now lives, will be sold for debts.
- Matthew Blair - 29 May 1799 - For sale June 11 at Port Tobacco the house formerly occupied by the late Matthew Blair, gives good description of house. (Note: Port Tobacco in Charles Co. MD about 19 miles from St. Marys Co. MD)

Maryland Records, Colonial, Revolution & Church - Vol. 1

- Vol. 1 - Mary (Blair) True died Feb 4, 1818 daughter of "Marbow" [Matthew?] Blair, Esq. of Charles County, MD, formerly of Glasgow, Scotland. (Tombstone Inscription of Church Yard - All Saints Parish, Frederick Co. MD)
- Census of 1775-1778
- Matthew Blair - Newport West. Hundred - Charles County, MD.
- Jane Blair married Rich. Drury Jan 9, 1806 St. Marys Co.
- Vol. 2 - John Blair born between 1746-1755 in 1776 census of Transquakin Hundred Dorchester Co. MD
- John Blair - priv. serv. Army Pensioned under act of June 7, 1785. Received \$120 at \$40.00 per annum starting Mar 4, 1789. (This John was died in 1792. (US. Pens. Roll 1835 p. 20) A 2nd entry says received \$120. Died 1794, MD. He is not the John Blair of St. Marys Co. MD)
- A. Jane Blair married Barbara Elliot Dec 3, 1778 gives minister not church. Washington Co. MD.

mu ster Rolls - Maryland Archives site  
- John Blair (son) wounded (Troops in Continental Army Chapter) This one was from Mount Vernon  
The record of John Blair list substitutes, drafts & vagr. from St. Marys County May 23, 1778 enlisted 9 months  
John Blair recruits raised in Montg. Co. for it's quota - John Blair recruited by Capt Beall

Note: Peter Blair born ca 1766 in Maryland died after 1850 in Marion Co. KY. when in his 80's.

# St. Mary's County, Maryland

Blairs

## St. Mary's County Tax Assessment Records

This column is all St. Mary's Co. MD. data.

### Peter Blair

Years 1793-1796

No land, no slaves, personal tax £7/6 Pounds.

### Joseph Blair

Years 1793-1796

No land, no slaves.

Year 1806

No land or slaves

### William Blair

Years 1793-1796

No land no slaves

1806

no land, no slaves

## Proceedings of Orphan Court Book 1 St. Mary's Co. MD and Book II

Feb. 1797

online →

FamilySearch.org

Book in Guardians

Records 1798-1806

John Blair deceased - orphan dgt. Elizabeth Blair has guardian Roswell Gibson appointed. Wm. Gibson and Charles Neal securities.

Oct 1803

John Blair deceased - Eliz. Goughert executrix of

John Blair's estate

of Blairs living in Maryland to try to determine relationships.

## Census

### Maryland Census

- Matthew Blair 1775 Charles

- Bryce Blair 1766 Frederick

- Matthew Blair 1778 Charles

- John Blair 1776 Berkeley

- Charles Blair 1790 census

- Matthew Blair Charles Co.

- 4 males over age 16

- John Blair St. Mary's Co.

- no John Blair

- William Blair St. Mary's Co.

- 1 male over 16 and

- Joseph Blair St. Mary's Co.

- Charles Blair - Caroline Co.

- Samuel Blair Frederick Co.

- 5 males over

- James Blair Washington

- 1 male over 16, 2m

- John Blair Washington

- 2 males over 16, 2m

- John Blair Worcester Co

- females over 16, 3m

- Peter Blair not listed in 1

lived with son

John Blair - Orphan Court - Roswell Gibson, administrator Filed  
Inventory dated Feb. 10, 1788. On line Family Search "Inventories 1745-1807  
St. Mary's Co. MD, page 155-156."

Orphan Court Will Book JJ No 2 - pg 291 St. Mary's Co. MD

Nov 13, 1797. will written, will proved 9 Nov 1801

Lucereta Blair, leave possession to granddaughter Mary Anderson who  
lives with her, states my son "Joseph Blair to take keep possession until Mary  
is 16  
witnessed by Roswell Gibson, Wm. Gibson, Elizabeth Fernal. [Will Book JJ No 2  
pg 291

Marriage & death - St. Mary's County MD.

William Blair born 1790 died 1872 age 82. (too young to be  
at residence in Chaptico. Wm Blair listed above  
in tax records.)  
he is the son of  
William Sr.

Susan Blair b. 1805 died 1883 age 78

Widow of William Blair - remains  
brought to her residence "Blair's Purchase"  
buried Sacred Heart Cemetery (Bushwood)

Mrs. Mary Blair born 1795 died 1870 age 75  
buried at Newton.

Jeremiah b. 1807 d. 1866 age 59 resided in  
Bedlam Neck Chaptico.

Maryland Jesuit Missions (Section on Newton)

89.105 lists 1787 Matthew Blair  
1784

St. Mary's County in the Revolution

John Blair private 3rd Regiment Maryland Line  
and 7th Regiment 1st Batt. St. Louis  
Maryland line  
served from Jan 1777 - 1782.

Colonial Deeds - Maryland - Found on MD. Archives on line

Matthew Blair - 1774 - 4 men give a few merchants power  
to ship products worldwide. One was "Matthew Blair" -  
merchant in Chaptico. Chaptico is in St. Mary's Co. MD and is  
in the St. Clement's Hundred. This place: Matthew there in 1774

- Joseph Blair - St. Mary's  
1 male 26-45 (born 1755-1774)  
1 male 10-16  
3 males under 10

- William Blair near by St. Mary's  
1 male 26-45 (born 1755-1774) 1  
3 males under 10  
nearby

- Lucereta Blair St. Mary's  
no males 1  
1

- John Blair - Worcester  
4 male over 45 (born before 1755) 1  
1 male 16-26 1  
1 male 10-16 1

- Charles Blair - Care line  
1 male over 45 (born before 1755) 1  
1 male 16-26 1  
1 male 10-16 1

- Samuel Blair Frederick  
1 male 26-45 (born between 1774) 1  
1 male under 10 2

- Andrew Blair Penn  
1 male 26 to 45 (1755-1774) no 1

- James Blair Wash  
1 male over 45 (born before 1755) 1  
1 male 16-26 1  
4 males under 10 2  
next door 1

- Fannie Blair Wash  
1 male 16-26 1  
1 male 10-16 1  
2 males under 10 1

- Lewis Blair All St  
1 male over 45 (born before 1755) 1  
1 male 16-26 1

- Joseph Blair near door to St. Mary's  
1 male over 45 (born before 1755) 1  
1 male 16-26 1  
1 male under 10 1

- St. Mary's Co near door to St. Mary's  
1 male over 45 (born before 1755) 1  
1 male 16-26 1  
1 male under 10 1



← 1790-1797 → Wm. & Mary land

[Charles Blair]

Percival Blair born abt 1795

Peter Blair born abt 1766

Joseph Blair born abt 1760

William Blair born abt. 1769

James Blair born abt 1764

John Blair born abt 1759

Lucretia Blair born 1760's

Jane Blair born abt 1786

William Blair born abt 1790

Jeremiah Blair

U/L St. Clements.

1793-1796 Tax Lists

1793-1796, 1806 Tax Lists

1793-1796, 1806 Tax Lists.

1794 Militia List

1794 Militia List

↓ This John was from Montgomery Co. MD, not St. Marys Co. 3rd & 7th Regiment Maryland Line - invalided, pension, died 1792 or 1794; 1797 Guardian Roswell Gibson

→ John Blair of St. Marys Co. Maryland enlisted for 9 months in Maryland militia (this is the com

1790 census will of 1797 daughters & 2 sons named Sam/William probably ft

Lucretia not in 1790 census - is in 1800 co. - nom

marries Richard Drenery Jan 9, 1806 St. Mary's Co.

Tax List District 4 1846/1849 Land Pt. Bushwood Lodge 117, Pt. Rich Neck 199. 10 slaves. The Wm. Blair

2 slaves of Susan Blair wife of Wm. Blair emancipated 1867

Tax Lists 1849 no land.; died 1866 Age 59 (b. 1807) resided Bedlam Neck Chopico left wife & 8 children

Caroline County

Charles Blair

Worcester County

John Blair

Dorchester County

Death of Allegence 1776,

1783 Tax List - Owns land 470 acres Caroline Co. & 3 parcels in Dorchester Co.; 1790 Census 1 male

and a lot 1 in Dorchester in Cambridge, agent H. Murray 1800 Census 1 male

(Dorchester Co.)

In 1790 co. 1 male over 16; 3 under & 2 females. Also in 1800 co.; 1810 co.

1776 census Transquatin Hundred. - John Blair male 21-30 yrs [born 1746 to 1755]; [Death of Allegence]

3 1812 King's Regiment District of Columbia (Same Regiment as brother Joseph below)

3 1812 Henry Ashmun's Co. 45th Regiment Militia (Same Regiment as brother Joseph below)

XY Peter signed Add. Clayton Peter said he had a brother John in Army in Revolutionary War.

1812 Capt. <sup>Byrd</sup> ~~Blackston~~ Ashmun's Co. [This is the Joseph born abt. 1789 who applied in Marion Co. KY for War 1812 pension] (Joseph's brother received also served in 45th Reg. of Ashmun's Militia)  
 Note: later, in Marion Co. KY, Joseph Blair applied for a War 1812 Pension in 1860 Joseph Blair sold Bounty land warrant he received for his War 1812 Service "Private, Capt. Blackstone Co. MD Militia. Certificate is on Bureau of Land Management website."

Awarded land grant.

F. Mayo Co. MD

Fitz. Blair orphan of John Blair, 1803 with bond book, attorney for Fitz. Blair to settle claim against John Blair estate; Rev. War.  
 Fitz. Blair orphan of John Blair, 1803 with bond book, attorney for Fitz. Blair to settle claim against John Blair estate; Rev. War.  
 John Blair) Allegany Co. Land Grants John Blair 2 - Page 3997. Listed in west. MD Book - List of Settlers 1783-1800. I believe this was the John Blair of Harpersburg Co. MD not St. Mary's Co. MD

Joint owners Saml & Wm. District 3 land Davis forest, Harford Hills 1846; 1849, 1826; 1831 TAX

25 1 female 26-45; 1 female over 45 (b. bef. 1755, A Gibson was next door. Wm & Jos. Blair on previous page.

Wm 1780  
 died 1872 age 82 (b. 1790) at home in Harpersburg. His widow Susan Blair d. 1883. Washington at son in laws. J. Shoemaker. Age 78 (b. 1805) taken to SMC, her no. Blair's Purchase Bur at Sacred Heart (Burwood?)  
 23 Slaves of Wm Blair emancipated 1864 St. Mary's Co. Wm at 1812 - widow had pension

A. younger Jeremiah d. 1891 Age. 45 (b. 1848) in Baltimore; 16 Slaves of Jeremiah Blair emancipated 1864 St. Mary's County  
 (Blair's Purchase 15 a hamlet just south of Burwood.)

24 b, 3 unduly, 3 females.  
 24 45 (born bef. 1755), 1 male 16-26; 1 female 16-45, 1 female 16-16.

Charles Blair married in Caroline Co. 3 Oct 1789 Ann Stevens (a 2nd marriage?)

Thomas Blair 1810 Census

## Frederick County

William Blair

David Blair

Elizabeth Blair

Bryce Blair

Andrew Blair

Samuel Blair

Prince George County

Elizabeth Blair

Andrew Blair

Somerset County

John Blair

Charles County

Matthew Blair

Washington Co.

James Blair

John Blair

Calvert Co.

Talbot County

Baltimore

Oath of Allegiance 1776; A William Blair is Justice

BALTIMORE  
(not sure if lived in Fredk. Co. David Blair & wife Mary Hanna named in will of her father, Alex Hanna. 1765 grandch. E at Baltimore.)

Has Will 9 Dec. 1778 (wife of William? or mother?)

1766 Frederick Co. "petitioner"

Settled in 1749 Frederick Co. now Wash. Co. now part of PA. called "Blair-Valley" Father alleged James Blair 1790 cs. 5 males over 16. no females. (Note below a Samuel enlisted in Rev. War. 1778) 1800 cs. also there 1810 cs.

Owned land bought Oct 1741 "Blairs Forest."  
1800 ca. males 6 to 45. no females.

William Blair 1739 petitioners

Witnesses will of Jonathan Dreddon 1769 A Robert Blair died in Somerset Co Folio 283 Book 39 1755

Oath of Allegiance 1776 (Newport West Headed); had provincial deed 1774 to sell & trade near Choptank; saw will

married Barbara Elliot Dec. 3, 1778; 1783 TAX owns land; 1790 census 1 male over 16, 2 under, 3 females; 1783 TAX - owns land; 1799 Census 2 males over 16, 2 under, 3 females; John not in 1800 cs but a fam 1800 ca. Lewis Blair All Saints parish 1 male over 16 (bef 1755); 1 male 16-26 1 female over 45

A James Blair died in 1724 Folio 283 Bk. 6; A Robert Blair had a letter not picked up at Oxford, Pa 1814  
James Blair bought land "Tanners Yard" 50 acres June 1730; A James Blair ext. of will of Monica Hagan of Char

Rev. War Sold, enlisted Apr. 1728  
a. Samuel Blair  
T. Blair  
Provincial Deed.  
James Blair; Capt. Alex. Culbertson's Co. and John Blair Capt. Hammonds Co. PA-  
Provincial Deed.  
James Blair; Capt. Alex. Culbertson's Co. and John Blair Capt. Hammonds Co. PA-  
Provincial Deed.



# CHART #2

Descending

I Made from small chart  
prest drew Feb 1890 dispassion

Unknown Parents

born ca 1737

(Joseph Blair?)

"Titus" Blair

b. ca 1760 M.D.

Charles Blair

b. ca 1782

marries cousin

Elizabeth Blair

Richard Blair

b. ca. 1796

marries cousin

Louisa Blair

Peter Blair

b. ca. 1797

marries

cousin

Maria Blair

Catherine Blair

b. ca 1828

marries

cousin

Sylvester Blair

Maria Blair

b. ca. 1833

marries cousin

Richard Blair

Sarah Jane Blair

b. ca 1862

Charles C. Blair

b. 1859

1st generation

2nd generation

3rd Generation

4th generation

5th generation

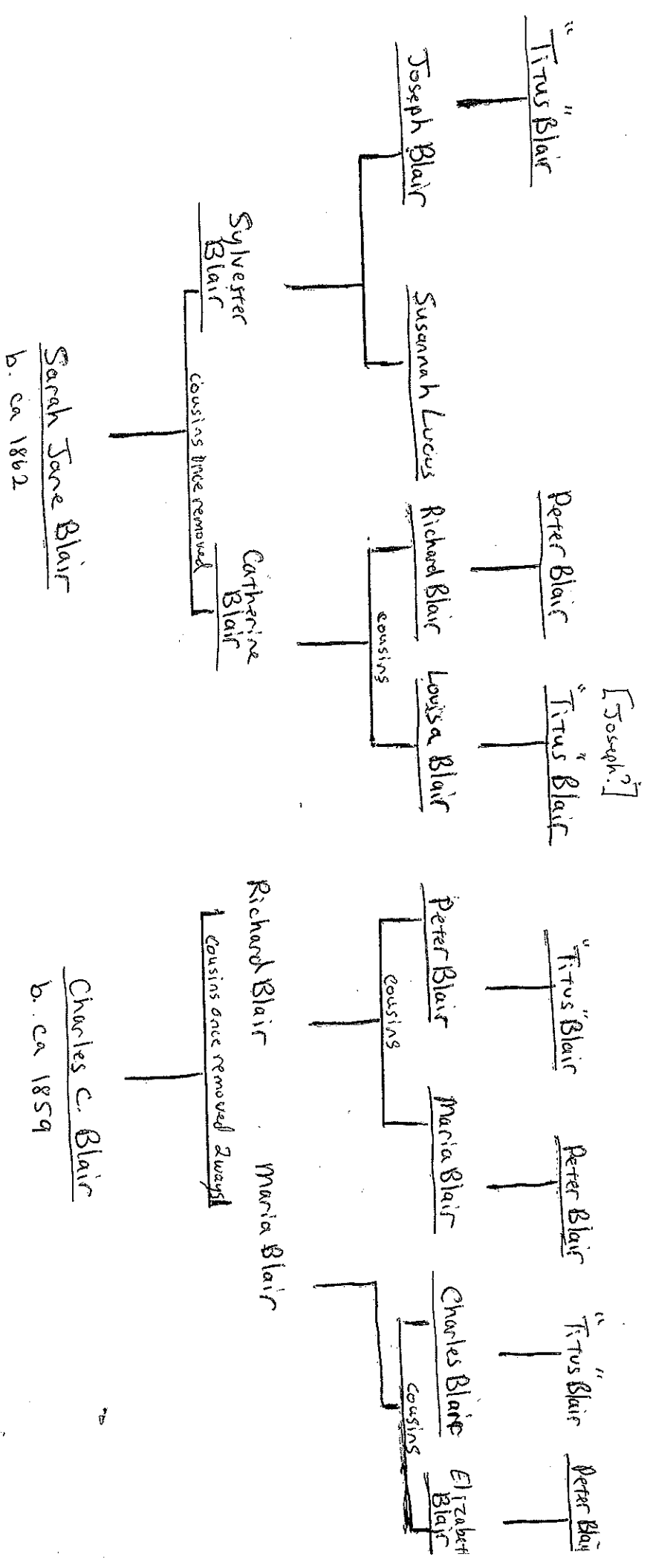
# CHART #3

ascending

I made from small chart  
priest drew regarding  
1890 dispensation request.

Chart below begins at bottom;

great-grandparents  
↑  
grandparents  
↑  
parents  
↑  
couple who wanted dispensation to  
marry Sarah J. Blair and Charles C. Blair



→ Lucretia's will written as her granddaughter.

Proceedings of the

1

M. Susan Lucas  
y May 1818 Wash. Co. KY

- Has War of 1812 Pension  
File. Brother Peter Blair  
did ~~Agst~~ <sup>Agst</sup> ~~don't~~ <sup>don't</sup>  
served in 1812 - St. Mary's Co. MD.

2. William (Sr.) Blair  
had more children  
than Wm Jr. ↓

### 3. Peter Blair

b. ca 1797 Maryland, St. Mary's Co.

d. 1870-1880 Marion Co. KY

m. Maria Blair 18 Jan. 1825

Wash. Co. KY. Maria is dgr. of

Peter Blair (born 1766)

- Did Agst. ~~don't~~ <sup>don't</sup> for brother Joseph's  
1871 War 1812 Pension Application.

### 4. Percival Blair

b. ca 1795 Maryland - St. Mary's Co.

d. bet 1850 census

m. y Apr. 1825 Wash. Co. KY.

Julia Lucas

- Service Record War 1812 St. Mary's Co. MD.

### 5. Louisa Blair

b. ca 1805 Maryland - St. Mary's Co.

d.

m. y Apr. 1825 Wash. Co. KY.

Richard Blair son of Peter Blair

(married on the same day as Percival Blair)

↓ Other unknown named daughters



Possible Relationships of the Elden Blairs of  
St. Mary's County Maryland with the younger Blairs  
who lived in Marion Co. KY. Also the elder Peter Blair  
who lived in Marion Co. KY.

John Blair

b. ca 1759.

m. — Thompson

d. late 1787 or early 1788  
St. Mary Co. Maryland

Female Blair  
b. about 1764

m. — Anderson

↓  
had dgt. Mary Anderson  
according to Lucinda Blair's  
will which states "my  
granddaughter Mary Anderson"

Peter Blair in Aff. for Jos. Clayton 1851 Rev. War  
said he had a brother John Blair Pension Application  
in Revolution.

1. Elizabeth Blair

There was a guardianship file  
for Elizabeth Blair - Russell Gibson was  
guardian and filed accounts. Also Russell  
Gibson was administrator of estates of Thomas &  
Elizabeth Thompson - her mother's parents and the  
child Elizabeth Blair was named as her granddaughter.

John Blair served in the  
Revolutionary War for 9  
months. From St. Mary's County MD.

Peter Blair Co. KY.

b. 1766

Maryland.

m.

d. between 1850-60  
Marion County, Kentucky Age 80's

- In St. Mary's Co. Tax Lists 1793-1796 Hundreds 441 St. Clements.  
- St. Mary's Co. MD. 1794 Militia  
- 1800 census of Wash. Co. KY.

1. Richard Blair

b. ca 1785-88

d. bet. 1820-1880 Marion Co. KY.

m. Louisa Blair dgt.  
of Joseph Blair  
4 Apr. 1825 Wash. Co. KY.

2. James Blair

b. ca 1792 Maryland

Blair  
born about 1735  
died

James Blair

b. ca 1764

m.

d.

- St. Mary's Co. MD.  
1794 Militia

This man only  
appears in St.  
Mary's Co. MD.  
records one time  
as being in the  
1794 militia  
at same time  
as Peter, Joseph  
& Wm. Blair  
possibly could

and filed an inventory that was taken  
on Feb. 19, 1788. (on file at FamilySearch.org)  
"St Mary Co. MD Book 'Inventories 1795-1807'  
page 155 & 156.)

~~At~~ At the end of John Blair's inventory  
it states "Kindred Joseph Blair, William  
Blair, creditors Lucrecia Blair, Mary Simpson."

16 Oct. 1815 Wash. Co. KY.

3. Wilford Blair of Marion Co. Ky

b. ca 1794 Maryland

d.

m. Mary Warthen

16 May 1821 Wash. Co. KY.

4. Elizabeth Blair

b. ca 1799 1

d. 19 Aug 1885 Marion Co. KY.

m. Charles Blair son of

Joseph Blair Wash. Co.

she 1st married Henry Alvey

21 Nov. 1821

1831

5. Maria Blair

b. ca

d.

m. Peter Blair son of

Joseph Blair, Wash. Co. KY.

4 Apr. 1825.

6. Sarah Ann Blair

b. ca 1795 Maryland

d. 27 Feb. 1882 Marion Co. KY.

m. Jesse Alvey.

Obit named Sister Betsy Blair

7. Female Blair

Further, he could  
be husband of  
Lucrecia Blair  
but that would mean  
he would have been  
59 yrs old which is  
possible but  
speculative only.

2053 pms  
 Henjane  
 Le bon  
 Standard  
 1948, 1882  
 above is  
 and.com  
 19 Aug  
 1885  
 died  
 1885  
 19 Aug

1885  
 19 Aug  
 1885  
 died  
 1885  
 19 Aug

Married

Male: Maria 24 & 1/2

Female: Maria 24 & 1/2

Male: Maria 24 & 1/2

Female: Maria 24 & 1/2

Male: Maria 24 & 1/2

Female: Maria 24 & 1/2

Posterior Gen. Movers

John H. Blair 6-15-1852

Spencer & Mawc

John & Emily Mawc 25-1857

Northern Blair 5-10-56

David & Edna Blair

Deceased

George Smith 68

Samuel Smith 68

7/15/1855

Married: Smith 27 Black

Edward Smith 26

Elizabeth 25-53

Elizabeth 25-53

Elizabeth 25-53

Elizabeth 25-53

And Titles

100

Ca 1794

Carry Blair  
to Cal 798

Lorisa  
Blum

Elizabeth Blair  
b. ca 1800

mar. Jesse Avery  
26 Feb, 1821  
Wash Co. Ky

Suzuki  
Blays

Dec 17 95

227

1882

Wanda

Obit says

85 yrs

7 sites

1840

female  
single

30 MD

born

1810-22

1850

female

single born  
age 49 (MD)

with Geo Newington MD

Louisa Nott SS MD

JO Nott 49

Jr. Nott 13

1860

Hardinsburg KY  
Brechinidge

Thomas Blair 65 MD  
single

with Millington Wilson 58 / N.C.  
VA

Nancy 53

3 years  
next door

near 6th y Wilson KY

married 49 KY

ANC. Com

MASS Peter

1/2

Swamp killing

Eleanor

Peter

1800

MD

George North between 1822-33

Jesse Along 18 Feb 1829

John Farewell 17 Feb 1815

John Blair

1860

b. 1809

Wm  
James  
Peter

James  
Charles  
E. W. (son) Wm.  
Ann

Blair

1/15/18

Peterson

Jane Blair

b. ca 1800 1794

mar. Nancy Pindy

? ② 25 Jan. 1821

? ① 16 Oct 1815

to Elizabeth Stewart  
both Wash. Co. Ky.

Robert Blair

b. ca 1784

Thames mar. Jane Gibbin

q Dec 1806  
Wash. Co. Ky

Elizabeth Blair

b. ca 1783

mar. John Miles

Wash Co. 14 Jan 1805

Eleanor Blair

b. ca 1793

mar. John Fern

1 Feb. 1815  
Wash Co. Ky

1830 census

Blair Chart of Blair Males born in Maryland  
who lived in Marion Co. KY, working chart

1800 Tax lists Washington Co.

- Peter Blair  
- John Blair

Charles below is the son of Blair above

(Charles Blair)

1830 Next door to Peter SE.

Peter SE & Thomas

1840 Next door to Peter SE & Richard.

1840-42 Died.

1850 Elizabeth near W. Road,

next door to Peter SE, Peter SE, & Richard)

Charles Blair = Elizabeth

born 1780-1790 Maryland b. 1799, KY

1782 married early 1820's Mar. 1st to Henry Alvey  
2nd Nov. 1821 Wash. Co.

died. 1840-1842

Apr. 10, 1847

1850, 1860, 1870, 1880's.  
owned land.

Enum. 8 doors away  
from Peter SE, Peter SE  
& Richard in 1850's.

Priscilla Blair (Alvey?)

b. 1824

owned land -

died 19 Aug 1865

buried St. Francis  
of Assisi.

"Titus" Blair (Joseph)  
(no such person in records -  
possible could be a middle name.  
I believe his name  
was Joseph Blair.)

Richard Blair below  
is the son of Peter Blair above  
(Richard Blair)

1820 next to Peter SE.

1830 4 pgs from

Peter SE.

1840 next to Peter SE.

1850 near widow Eliz.  
and next to Peter SE (SE)

Richard Blair

born 1799 Maryland

Mar. (Louisa Blair) Apr. 1825  
Blair in Wash. Co. KY  
died

d. after 1870

2 Meredith (Madison)

b. 1828

(boy)

1 Catherine Blair  
ca 1825

2. Betina  
b. 1830

born ca 176  
married ca 18  
- Mary Polly  
d

(Peter was in 1  
is on a Tax list  
1800 and 1810.  
He was age 83  
KY, 1850 census

(Peter Blair SE)

1830 next to Peter SE.

1840 near Peter SE.

1850 next to Peter SE.

Richard & widow Eliz.

Peter Blair is the  
above

Peter Blair

born 1797 Maryland

Mar. March Blair

ca 18 Jan. 1825 (Apr. 27)

Washington Co. KY

d. between 1870-1880

1. Susan Blair

b. 1827

William  
2. Richard Blair

b. 1829  
Mar. March Blair (Charles) dgt

Francis 1871: Annie 1875  
3. Jefferson Blair  
b. 1831

4. Washington Blair  
b. 1834

5. Sidney  
b. 1836

7. Rosa  
b. 1838

5. Ynilla  
b. 1832

4. Martina  
b. 1834

5. Ellen  
b. 1836

6. John  
b. 1838

7. Jane  
b. 1840

8. Nancy  
b. 1842

Note regarding Mary J. Thomas C. Blair & Elizabeth Family.  
1900 census - Mary says she had 11 children, 8 who are living.  
1910 census she says had 11 children, 7 who are living.

single - never married

John dies Dec 30, 1911  
age 83. bur Nov 16, 1837  
b. 1830 according to says born Nov.

Nicholas O. Blair is 1st son of  
Newell John Blair & Elizabeth Charles

3. Celia A. Blair  
b. 1831

4. Thomas Christopher Blair → children  
b. 1833 KY.  
m. Nov. 15, 1864 Mary Cross ch.  
b. 1865 single

mar. Mary J. ca. 1863  
Charles  
died - between 1840-1849  
owned land Apr 14, 1847

2. William Blair  
b. 1867

Coru =  
Smith  
b. 1880  
Mar 1884

3. Thomas Blair  
b. 1870

4. James B. Blair  
b. 1873

5. Francis Blair  
b. 1875

6. Nicholas Oliver Blair  
b. 1877

7. Mary Nettie Blair  
b. 1879  
m. George F. Smith

8. Aaron Blair  
b. 1882

9. Mary Blair ← Payne  
b. Apr 1886  
1910 10. Leo Blair born 1888

5. Mariah Blair  
b. 1835

6. Seth Blair  
b. 1839

7. Thomas Blair  
b. 1841



Sr  
Maryland

John Blair

Peter in a 1851 Affidavit for Joseph Clayton's Revolutionary War Pension stated he "had a brother John Blair who entered the service at the same time [as Jos. Clayton] and after the war was over they both returned at the same time."

The man on Co. owned land.

(Joseph Blair 1820 next to Peter Se. & Richard. 1840 not next to them 1850 not next to)

James Blair below is the son of Peter Blair above

Joseph Blair is the son of Blair above

Wilfred Blair (not near in 1890 1850 near to widow Elizabeth.)

Wilford Blair below is the son of Peter Blair above

All these men born between 1785 - 1799 Maryland

Percival Blair is the son of Blair above

Peter Sr. - he would be 43 in 1810

1810 census - 3 boys all born between 1784 and 1794 (They were Richard, James, & John)

- 1 girl between 1800-1810 3 girls between 1794-1800 Sarah, Elizabeth, & Mary

1820 census Peter not listed - wife Mary is next to Rich. & Joseph:

1830 Peter Sr. & wife both between 60-70 yrs = born 1760 to 1770 1 girl born bet. 1800-1810

James Blair

Joseph Blair  
born 1787 Maryland

b. ca 1799 Maryland  
mar. Susanna Lucas b. Ky. (age 31)  
4 May 1818 Wash. Co. Ky.

mar. Dec 16 1815 d. bet 1870-80

Elizabeth Stewart  
b. 1794

Charles Blair  
1824

Wilford Blair

born 1793 Maryland

mar. Mary Warren b. Ky.  
16 May 1821 Wash. Co. Ky.

Deed of land  
purchased  
Wilford son of Peter

1. Ulrich  
b. 1822 Ky

mar. Nancy Dant  
children Wilford 1846  
Catherine 1849

Posthumous Elizabeth 3-2-1858

Percival Blair

b. betw. 1790-1800

mar. Julia Lucas  
4 Apr 1825 (Age 25-30)  
Washington Co. Ky

Another marriage

marrying Sam

has

1. Rosena 1829

2. M. A. T 1833

18 1828

P. Hardin Blair  
b. 1825

now at 1831-32

- Ellen  
b. 1827 Ky.  
d. Jan 24 1905  
bur. St. Catherine's

1900 obit  
Loretta Blair  
d. Jan 24 1905

S. Hemphrey 1850

3. Mary Blair  
1832

- Carthy  
b. 1831 Ky

4 Sarah Blair  
1833

- Zachariah  
b. 1833 Ky

- Emily  
b. 1831 Ky

1830 census  
George & Susan  
Living single Allen

M. Greenwell  
Thome

5. Jane Blair  
b. 1837

- Elizabeth  
b. 1835 Ky

- Sarah  
b. 1837 Ky

signed wife  
J. Malinor Blair

b. ca 1823  
Wm. Bush  
A.

- Joseph  
b. 1837 Ky

- Joanna  
b. 1839 Ky

- Wilford Jr.  
b. 1841 Ky

Another

Eliza Jane Blair

b. 1818

married Dublin

- Larkin  
b. 1843 Ky

children

Albert

Josephine

John

Sylvester?  
b. ca 1825?  
mar. Catherine Blair  
dgt of Richard & Louisa

d. 2 Nov. 1917 age 73

Farmer

De said Sothwell b. MD

woman - brother b. MD

(I believe this is Joseph Blair  
Titus may have been a middle name.)

unkn  
born ca 1

"Titus" Blair

born - ca 1760 Maryland  
died - St Mary's Co. MD.

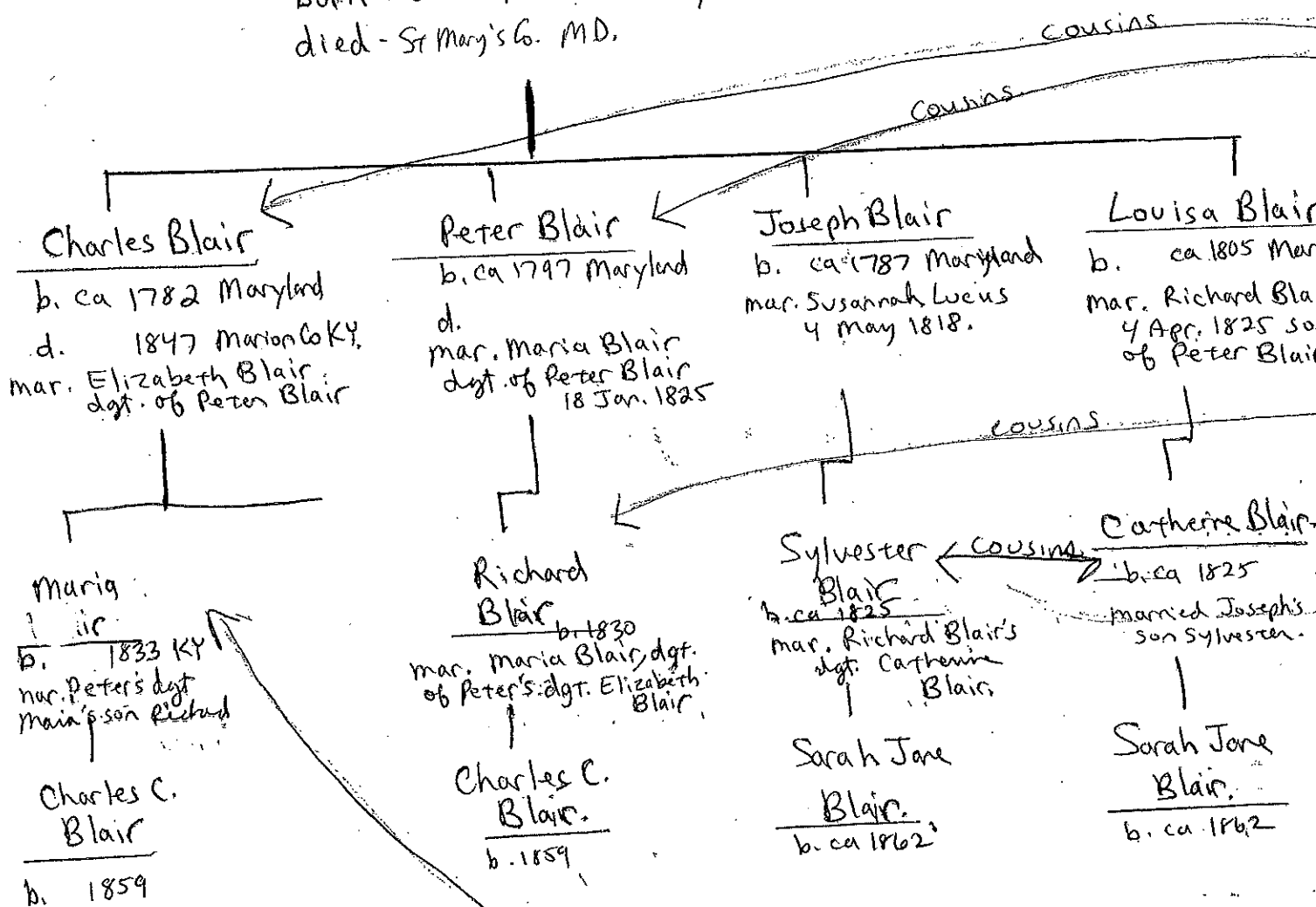


CHART #1

Relationship lines shown in  
the dispensation request  
in the Decree in 1859

Father Mother  
b. ca 1737

Peter Blair

born - ca 1766 Maryland  
died - bet. 1850-1860 Marion Co. KY.

Richard Blair

b. ca 1796 Maryland.  
mar. Louisa Blair  
dgt. of "Titus" Blair.  
4 Apr. 1825

(Betsy)  
Elizabeth Blair

b. ca 1798 Maryland  
mar. Charles Blair  
son of Titus Blair

Maria Blair

b. ca 1801 Kentucky  
mar. Peter Blair son of "Titus" Blair  
18 Jan. 1825

Catherine Blair

b. ca 1825  
married Titus's son Joseph's  
son Sylvester Blair.

Maria Blair

b. ca 1833 KY.  
mar. Richard Blair  
son of Titus's son  
Peter Blair.

Richard Blair

b. ca 1830 KY

Titus's son,  
mar. Charles Blair's  
dgt Maria.

Sarah Jane Blair

b. 1859,

Charles C. Blair

b. 1859

Charles C. Blair

b. 1859

Cousins

## Blair-Buckman

Sept 12, 1932

The wedding of Miss Mary Lockie Blair and Paul Clifford Buckman was solemnized at 7:30 o'clock Tuesday morning at St. Francis Church at Chicago, the pastor, Rev. N. Werner, officiating. The ceremony was followed by a Nuptial High Mass. The sanctuary and altars were prettily decorated with lighted candles, ferns and summer flowers.

Miss Marguerite Blair, sister of the bride, was the bridesmaid, and Leo Mills was the groom's best man. Lawrence J. Elder and Richard Blair were the ushers.

The bridal party entered the church to the strains of Lohengrin's Bridal Chorus, played by Miss Nell Nugent, organist, assisted by Mrs. Robert Mattingly and Talmage Riggs, violinists. During the ceremony "I Love You Truly" was played and at the offertory of the mass Clement Lamkin of Raywick sang "Ave Maria." The party left the church as Mendelssohn's Wedding March was played. The Chicago church choir assisted with the music.

The bride was gowned in white ruffled taffeta. She wore a veil edged with lace which was adjusted to head in cap fashion and held in place by orange blossoms. Her flowers were an arm bouquet of Bride's roses.

The bridesmaid was attired in a blue taffeta with pink sash and other trimmings. She wore a large, pink hat and carried an arm bouquet of pink roses.

Following the ceremony a breakfast was served at the home of the bride for the wedding party and few relatives and close friends, after which Mr. and Mrs. Buckman left on a trip to the Century of Progress Exposition in Chicago, Ill. They will also visit relatives in Tippecanoe, Ind. They expect to go to housekeeping shortly after their return here.

The bride is the attractive daughter of F. N. Blair of Loretto, and is a young woman possessing many qualities of mind and heart that have won for her a host of warm friends. She was graduated from Augustine's High School and later completed a course at a Louisville business college. She was cashier for the F. S. Marshall Company in Chicago until about a year ago when she resigned.

The groom is the only son of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Buckman of Chicago Market. For several years he has been associated with the Lerner Bros. Department Store in this city. He is a splendid young man and is highly regarded by all who know him.

## Hughes-Blair.

The wedding of Miss Mary Emma Hughes of Raywick and Louis Bertrand Blair of Loretto was solemnized at St. Francis Xavier's church at Raywick Thursday morning at 5 o'clock, the Rev. Vincent Sciolla officiating. The ceremony which was followed by a Nuptial Mass was witnessed by quite a number of relatives and friends.

Miss Mary Lockie Blair, sister of the groom, was the bridesmaid, and Raffo Blanford was the groom's best man.

Following the ceremony a wedding breakfast was served at the home of the bride after which Mr. and Mrs. Blair left on a short bridal trip.

The bride is an attractive young woman and possesses many qualities of mind and heart that have endeared her to a host of warm friends. She is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Hughes. The groom is a splendid young man and is a prosperous farmer. He is a son of former Sheriff F. Nan Blair. Both the bride and groom are well known and popular in the communities where they live.

Mary - a  
gentleman from not cattle  
Huntington, I used  
cattle and account  
appreciate some Bobbitts  
info on it. 24 1851 Street - Street -  
man. Mar. 24 1851 Street - Street -  
Charles B. Babbitts m. Mary  
d. 1854 1854 in  
1854 1854 in  
Marion County,  
(Lanceo info)  
Mary Anne brother  
named William -  
that the parent  
name of this man.  
He was called back  
Anna Johnson

34  
Haley Cross Com.  
Charles Blair  
Age 65 yr. died  
4-10-1847  
Mary,  
and husband of  
Elephanta Blair  
rest of family lived  
at St. Francis, Ky

**Note to researchers:**

The following was authored by me for distribution at the James Joseph Blair Family Reunion in Bardstown, Kentucky in June of 2017. This is meant as a personal family history and not an authoritative genealogical document. As such, it is not annotated. However, most of what is set forth herein can be corroborated by cemetery records, census documents, the Blair Family File of the Marion County Public Library in Kentucky (the "Blair File"), or other documents in my possession. In sum, what follows should be fact-checked where possible. I have noticed some inconsistencies in the Blair File with what is set forth below, and would defer to the Blair File, which was not in my possession at the time I wrote this. Should any subsequent researchers encounter any outright errors, I apologize. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any concerns, or if you have any information to share

– Alex Blair, Chicago, Illinois, June 26, 2017, [apblair@gmail.com](mailto:apblair@gmail.com).

**Blair Family History**

In 1688 Protestant members of Parliament overthrew their Catholic King of England and Scotland.

King James II had attempted to lift the long-standing official discrimination of the Catholic faith by royal decree. Even worse, his wife had given birth to a son, James Edward Stuart. This meant that England faced the prospect of a Catholic royal family, which was unacceptable to powerful anti-Catholic forces in England.

The King spent his final years in exile in France. His son, James Stuart, called "The Old Pretender" was determined to reclaim the throne of majority Catholic Scotland for the Stuart family. In 1715, forces loyal to the Stuarts started the first of two rebellions that would rage across Scotland for much of the century, called the Jacobite Rebellions. The majority Catholic Highland clans rallied to the standard of the House of Stuart. The first rebellion ended with a whimper, when the Jacobite commander surrendered at the Battle of Preston. The commander did this without informing the Highlanders, who were furious and wanted to fight to the death. Nevertheless, many of the Highlanders were rounded up and deported to the American Colonies.

On March 30, 1716, 95 Highland prisoners from the Battle of Preston boarded the prisoner ship *Scipio* at Liverpool, bound for Virginia. The prisoners were to be sold for a period of forced labor in the Colonies: Indentured servitude.

James Blair, sometimes written as Blare, was one of the prisoners. 300 years later, here we are.

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I wish I could tell you that James Blair was our ancestor, and I'm not just guessing. But the truth is, guesswork is the best we can do to determine where the Blair clan that showed up in 1790s Kentucky came from. If you're reading this, odds are you are a descendant of that pioneer family of mysterious origin. Over the last seven years, off and on, I have searched Colonial tax and census records, ancient cemetery lists, Revolutionary War pension rolls, Scottish lawsuits from the 1700s, and ship manifests, looking for *where we came from*. I haven't found a smoking gun to give you a good answer, but I learned a lot about who we are and who we were. That doesn't mean the answer isn't out there, but Colonial era records are notoriously sparse. Simply put, our family may have been in this country for too long for us to ever figure it out.

So before I continue, here's why I think my guess is a good one: First, "Blair" is a common name, but we know that *our* Blairs have always been Catholic. Second, we know that our Blairs emigrated to Marion County, Kentucky from St. Mary's County, Maryland.

In 17th Century America, Catholics were a persecuted minority. Many Americans, including some of our Founding Fathers, were suspicious of Catholics. Catholic rituals were thought strange and macabre. Many people thought that Catholics could never truly be English or American, that Catholics would always be loyal to the pope first. Many viewed Catholics as foreign agents. The Gunpowder Plot of 1605, in which a group of Catholics allegedly attempted to blow up Parliament, was not too far in the distant past. Nor were the violent Catholic versus Protestant power struggles in England, which had cost many lives on both sides.

Maryland was one of the few colonies not openly hostile to Catholics. St. Mary's County, Maryland was considered the cradle of the Catholic Church in America, and many Catholics flocked there so they could openly practice their faith. In Maryland, being descended from prisoners sent from England was nothing new. England had been sending Scots and other "undesirables" to America for years. In July of 1650, Rev. John Cotton wrote from Boston to Oliver Cromwell that 150 Scottish prisoners of war from the Battle of Dunbar had arrived there "and been sold, not for slaves to perpetual servitude, but for six or seven or eight years."

Ships from England would sell prisoners to a term of service, use the money to buy tobacco, stop in the Caribbean to trade some of that tobacco for sugar, and hitch the trade winds back to England for a handsome profit. Some historians reported that Maryland received more British prisoners than any other colony, perhaps over 20,000, half of which arrived after 1750.

The practice was so common that many in England came to think of America as they later would come to think of Australia. After unrest in America over taxation without representation, famous English writer Samuel Johnson complained to a friend, "Sir, They are a race of convicts and ought to be content with anything we may allow them short of a hanging."

It's not too much of a stretch to think that James Blair finished his term of servitude and made his way to St. Mary's County, Maryland. Two other prisoner ships from the Battle of Preston, the *Goodspeed* and the ironically-named *Friendship*, sold their prisoners in Annapolis.



Therefore, we can conclude that James, whoever he was, likely had friends or relatives in Maryland. And it's entirely plausible that he settled in St. Mary's County, where he had people who worshipped the same faith that he had given up his freedom fighting for.

It could have happened just like that, or maybe nothing like that at all. But enough guesswork, what follows is what we know.

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In the late 1790s, several Catholic families in St. Mary's County, Maryland made a pact with each other to emigrate to Kentucky, at time the edge of the frontier. They would band together for mutual defense against the Native American population, and hopefully, build a community to replace one whose fortunes had greatly declined: During the Revolutionary War, British warships prowled the waters and tributaries of Chesapeake Bay. They seized farms, supplies, and occasionally destroyed homes. Many local men fought in the Continental Army, or served in local militias to defend the home front against the marauding British. One of them was Matthew Blair, a resident of adjacent Charles County, who served under Capt. Benjamin Corry. Also serving in the militia were individuals whose family names are familiar to us today, "Zach Dent" and "Elisha Ferrell." Information about this Revolutionary War veteran Blair is scant, and it's impossible to know where, or even if, he fits into our family tree.

After the war, the loss of trade with Great Britain made economic recovery from the Revolution difficult, and good farmland was becoming scarce in Maryland. Escaping religious persecution was also a factor. Although Maryland was the most welcoming of the thirteen original colonies to Catholics, British penal laws had made it illegal for Catholics to vote, hold public office, or practice law. This situation improved after America gained its independence in 1776, but Catholics were still a minority. Marylander Rev. John Carroll, SJ became the first bishop of the brand-new Apostolic Prefecture of the United States in 1789. Bishop Carroll's family had been prominent in the cause for independence. His cousin, Charles, was the only Catholic signer of the Declaration of Independence and the first US Senator from Maryland. Bishop Carroll later founded Georgetown University in Washington, DC. The new bishop promised the would-be emigrants that he would provide a priest for them in Kentucky so they could worship freely.

The "League of Catholic Families," as they called themselves, numbered about 60 families. The first group left Maryland in 1785, and was led by Basil Hayden, a prominent farmer and distiller. Hayden founded one of the first distilleries in Kentucky, and later his grandson would start a distillery and name his bourbon "Old Grand Dad" after his pioneer grandfather. "Basil Hayden" is also the name of a brand of small-batch bourbon made today by Jim Beam. A second group of families followed in 1786, and a third in 1787. The brand-new Kentuckians settled in the area around present-day Bardstown extending south to Pottinger's Creek.

In these three groups, or shortly following them, were two brothers: Ignatius Blair, who some called "Titus," and Peter Blair. Titus was the older of the two, having been born about 1760. He would have been a teenager when America declared its independence from Britain, but if he fought in the Revolution like many of his fellow emigrants, no evidence has been found. Peter

was younger, having been born in 1767. By the time Peter came to Kentucky, he had a wife, Sarah, and three children: Wilford, Sarah, and Elizabeth Blair, who went by the name "Betsy." By comparison, we know almost nothing about Ignatius Blair, except that his wife was named "Mary," and they had at least one son that we know about, Charles Blair, who was born around 1782, shortly before the United States gained independence with the Treaty of Paris.

This means that Charles would have been a toddler when his family began the arduous journey from the only home they'd ever known in Maryland to an entirely uncertain future on the frontier in Kentucky. This would have meant walking to Pittsburgh and taking a flatboat down the Ohio river to Kentucky. The dangers were many. People drowned in the river when the crude flatboats broke apart, or got sick and died. Native Americans were a threat. Once the settlers arrived in Kentucky and walked overland, the women and children would have stayed in heavily-guarded forts, called "stations," while the men worked together to clear fields and plant crops.

The Catholic Church would have been a key part of communal and social life in Kentucky for Charles, Betsy, and their fellow settlers. Bishop Carroll made good on his promise, and sent the community a priest in 1787. Masses would have been held in homes, as there was no established parish. Priests assigned to the Kentucky "mission" would spend their days on horseback, riding from Catholic settlement to Catholic settlement, across Kentucky and several neighboring states dispensing sacraments along the way. In those years, the Diocese of Bardstown included Kentucky, Tennessee, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Michigan. You were lucky to be able to attend mass or give confession, and it might be months until you got to do it again. Finally, a log chapel church was built less than a mile west of Pottinger's Creek, and they called it Holy Cross. It was the first Catholic Church built west of the Allegheny Mountains. One of the roving priests who served the community was Fr. Stephen Badin, the first priest ordained in America. Fr. Badin traveled all over the Upper South and Midwest, ministering to far-flung and isolated Catholic communities. He also acquired a reputation for playing fast and loose with the rules about priests owning property. Eventually he ended up giving away most of his real estate, including a gift of a farm on the St. Joseph River in Indiana, to an intense priest from France named Fr. Edward Sorin. Father Sorin had a crazy idea to start a college on the frontier in 1842. That college became the University of Notre Dame, and Fr. Badin, who the Blairs likely knew by sight, is now interred on its campus.

One of the things we do know about Peter and Titus' children Betsy and Charles is that they were married on November 3, 1831. They were first cousins and he was 19 years her senior. It was likely a marriage of convenience, as both had been widowed. It is unknown if Betsy or Charles had children from their first marriages, but they likely did, and it would have made sense to raise them together. Betsy's first marriage was to Henry Alvey, who was her brother-in-law. Her sister Sarah, called "Sallie," had married Jesse Alvey. No doubt the two sisters looked forward to marrying into the same family, but it was not to be. Betsy's second marriage, to Charles, lasted 17 years until his death in April of 1847. The 1850 Census lists Elizabeth Blair living alone with two boys named Charles Blair, age 24, and John Blair, age 22. Both boys were probably the late Charles' sons from his first marriage. Both their occupations are listed as "farmer." Elizabeth was also living with a teenage girl named Sarah Blair, likely her daughter by

Charles, named after her beloved sister, and a 13-year-old boy named James Blair, who was likely her son. Charles and Elizabeth had at least one other son, Thomas C. Blair, who was born in 1833. While the first few decades of Kentucky life for the Blairs were marked by hardscrabble farming, Thomas build a small fortune and prosper in the industry that would one day make this small corner of Kentucky world-famous: bourbon.

Thomas decided to seek his fortune away from the farm in the small hamlet of Chicago, now known as St. Francis, Kentucky. He may have served in the Civil War on the Union Side, joining up with the Kentucky Light Artillery to defend his home state against Confederate sorties. There is a record of a Thomas Blair serving with that unit, and he would have been of appropriate age, but it can't be determined for sure. If Thomas C. Blair is the same Thomas Blair as recorded, he would have defended Lebanon against attack on Brig. Gen. John Hunt Morgan's famous raid into Kentucky and fought Morgan again at the Battle of Cynthiana. What Thomas or his family thought of the war can only be guessed at. His mother Betsy owned a 17-year-old female slave at the outbreak of the war, per the 1860 slave census. His maternal grandfather, Peter, may have owned more.

Whatever the story of his war years, Thomas soon proved himself a very capable merchant. Chicago had a stop on the L&N Railroad, a steam sawmill, the handsome brick St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church and several distilleries. In 1879, Thomas and a partner bought one of the distilleries and founded Blair Distilling Company. The firm was successful enough to weather a disastrous fire in 1894 that destroyed 1,000 barrels of whiskey. The distillery was quickly rebuilt. Thomas married Mary Jane Peterson, and they had 11 children. Mary Jane was formidable in her own right. When Thomas eventually passed away, she would inherit his shares and Blair Distillery would become one of the first female distillery owners.

Thomas and Mary Jane had 11 children, and were no doubt prominent citizens in Chicago. The family dedicated a stained glass window in St. Francis of Assisi, which is still there today. The dedication states, "Pray for the Family of T.C. & Mary Jane Blair."

Soon, the family would need those prayers.

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Thomas was a lifelong Democrat, and probably in a fit of patriotism named his third son James Monroe Blair, after the Founding Father and Democratic president. James followed in his father's footsteps and became a merchant. In October of 1893, at age 22, James married Elizabeth Ferriell. Everyone called her "Lyda." Rather than get married in the local church, the couple went to Louisville to get married in the beautiful Cathedral of the Assumption. This was a sure sign of a good match of two longtime local clans.

Lyda's family was one of the original families to come from Maryland, and her ancestors may have fought in the American Revolution. Her father, John C. Ferriell seems to have been a successful farmer. She never knew her mother, Elizabeth Green, who died just a few weeks

after Lyda was born, perhaps from complications from childbirth. Lyda's marriage to James immediately produced one son, James Arthur Blair. Just a few years later, she was pregnant again. It's tempting to imagine the young couple, with a healthy baby boy and another child along the way, happy and secure in their prospects.

By this point, the communities founded by the first settlers were 100 years old. These first homesteads had mostly been long abandoned for more respectable farmhouses, but the wells and cesspits used daily by the growing communities were showing their age. Lacking modern plumbing and sanitation, the residents of Chicago, Kentucky had no way of knowing their drinking water was contaminated until it was too late.

The first signs of typhoid fever are relatively benign: a slight fever, fatigue, and headache. After a week, the victim breaks out in rashes, and the fever rises. Many patients are delirious and confused. Abdominal pain and frequent diarrhea are common. If left untreated, after the third week the fever will subside in approximately 70 to 90 percent of cases. However, if the fever fails to subside, a number of fatal complications can occur. The intestine can rupture, leading to deadly infection. The victim is especially vulnerable to pneumonia or respiratory infection. Some contract a swelling of the brain, leaving them unable to recognize family members, or remember how to tie their shoes. It would have been terrible to see a successful young husband and father deteriorate in this matter, but that's what Lyda endured in the ninth month of her pregnancy in 1896. James Monroe Blair was buried the morning of December 19, 1896. It was Saturday, less than a week before Christmas. That night, Lyda gave birth to their second son, James Joseph Blair.

It wasn't the first, or the last, tragedy to befall the extended Blair clan. Sidney, James's older brother, had died of typhoid in 1895. William Blair, who may have been another brother (he is not mentioned in Thomas C.'s will) also died in 1896. Ferdinand Blair, called "Nan," who was James' younger brother, and a county sheriff, almost died of typhoid that same year, but survived. Typhoid claimed the life of the family patriarch, Thomas C., in April of 1897, as well as another son, Aaron, in 1905. Mary Jane buried a fifth son, Robert, in 1910, when he was only 21. In the span of 15 years, the Blairs had lost six adult men. Only Nan, and Nicholas, who would take over the distillery for Mary Jane and run it until the Great Depression, survived to old age. It's a mystery why typhoid killed so many Blair men as opposed to the women in the family. Perhaps the men would travel to nearby cities of Louisville, Cincinnati or Nashville on business, where they were more susceptible to contaminated water.

After James's death, Lyda moved back in with her elderly father, John Ferriell. Lyda had been the youngest of 11 children, and her father was in his 70s by this time. She likely would have had to care for him as well as her infant son, James Joseph, and her toddler, James Arthur. Her troubles were not over. James Arthur passed away when he was only 6 years old. Widowed, and having lost an infant son, and with an elderly father now pushing 80 to care for, Lyda turned to dressmaking to earn an income for her small family. Then in 1904, just shy of his 82nd birthday, John Ferriell passed away. In the span of eight years, Lyda had buried her husband, firstborn son, and now, her father.

By 1910, she was living on Mulberry Street in Lebanon, Kentucky, with James, earning money as a seamstress. They likely lived in a boarding house. She was a long way from her wedding to a young merchant of a well-to-do family in the cathedral in Louisville.

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It's tempting to look back on 250 years of history and focus on the big, dramatic moments. We know the Blair family was here in this country for revolutions, civil war, and the opening and closing of the frontier. But consider the widow on Mulberry Street. She was 38 with a teenage son to look after. To that point, her life had been marked by crushing blows and unknowable grief. What fears or disappointments did she have to herself when the long day was over? She had endured enough to break almost anyone. It would have been almost understandable to be swallowed in a tide of depression and leave her young son James adrift.

But that's not what happened. In 1911, she moved with James, who his friends called "Jimmy," to New Hope. The move was likely to better Jimmy's prospects of an education. Lyda had remained close to an older sister, Nancy. Like Lyda, Nancy had married into a distilling family. Her husband was Joseph Bernard Dant. The Dant family had started in the business in 1830s when Joseph's father, J.W. Dant founded his first distillery. The Dants were wealthy, and Nancy and Joseph lived in Louisville. It was the life Lyda might have had, had her husband lived. Joseph and Nancy paid for their nephew Jimmy to attend the Gethsemani secondary school run by Trappist monks at the monastery near New Hope, and later paid for him to attend St. Xavier High School in Louisville. Nancy died in 1934, and Joseph followed in 1939, but the Dant family continued to sent Lyda \$100 every Christmas for the rest of her life. Jimmy would later give one of his sons the middle name "Bernard," likely as tribute to the man and the family who did so much for him and his mother.

After moving to New Hope, Lyda married a widower named Richard Bennett. Nothing much about their life as a couple is known, but Jimmy became acquainted with the neighbor girl who lived in the house behind them, Katharine Bowling. Jimmy and Katharine married in November of 1920, and Lyda moved in with them when Richard died in 1927, living with her son, daughter-in-law and grandchildren until she passed away in 1955. Her surviving grandchildren don't remember a stern, taciturn woman hardened by a life of grief. Rather, she lavished her grandchildren with love. Although she lived with her son's family, she let her daughter-in-law run the household. But she was always willing to pitch in where needed, whether that was canning, dressing chickens, or other chores around the house. Her abiding hobby, perhaps left from the years when it was her livelihood, was sewing. She would buy patterns and interesting bolts of cloth from traveling salesmen and spend hours in the private room Jimmy built for her, painstakingly cutting them into postage-stamp sized squares and other intricate patterns. Several of her quilts survive today as treasured family heirlooms, and they indicate an artist with incredible dedication and will to see a task to completion.

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Compiling a family history can be a frustrating thing. There are people who came before you, who are now nothing more than a name on a page, maybe a date of birth, maybe a date of death. Often, there's less. So many of the people that made us who we are today passed beyond living memory long ago. Several of us have spent the last several years trying to piece this story together as best we can, but in the background there is an unfulfilled longing to know, *what were these people like?*

The answer can be found in the family that endures and grows with each passing year. Well over 200 people can now claim they were present in some way in that lonely seamstress's apartment on Mulberry Street. Many of us now reading this never knew Lyda or Jimmy Blair. We were born after he passed away in 1980. But we know his children and grandchildren. We don't need to be told that Jimmy Blair had a great sense of humor and loved to laugh, because we all do. He likely got that from Lyda, that single mother who raised him well in spite of all her heartbreak. She probably kept on laughing through it. We don't need to be told that Lyda was sustained by the Catholic faith that brought her ancestors west, because she raised a religious son who in turn raised faithful sons and daughters.

We are who we are because of the people that passed before us.



## Analysis of Blair Research Data.

April 5, 2013

Jama,

The following is my analysis of research data enclosed regarding the Blairs of Marion Co. Ky and St. Mary's Co. Maryland. Unfortunately, fire destroyed courthouse records in St. Marys Co. MD. (as well as you know Marion Co. KY.) I have attempted to research all other available records in St. Mary's Co. MD and drew 2 research charts regarding the data.

I feel there is a good possibility that Joseph & Mary Blair of St. Mary's Co. MD, are the parents of the following who moved to Marion Co. KY: Charles Blair born 1785 MD; Joseph Blair born abt. 1788 MD, Peter Blair born about 1793 MD, Percival Blair b. 1795 MD and Louisa Blair b. about 1805 MD and some other daughters.

→ An 1890 document enclosed regarding dispensation request for the marriage of two related Blairs. I have a chart attached to it the priest drew, I have drawn other expanded charts of the relationships from the priest's basic chart. His chart shows

Blair, Stipes

Peter Blair                      "Titus" Blair and descents.

Peter Blair is the known elder Peter Blair who moved from Maryland to Washington now Marion Co and was there by 1800. His brother that the priest wrote "Titus" I believe may have been a middle name not a first name. It was common for people back in time to go by their middle name. (I have searched MD records and there is no such person as "Titus". I believe the name may have been Joseph.

As far as the priest writing <sup>above</sup> Peter & "Titus"'s name Blaire, Stipes - I don't think the young couple requesting the dispensation knew the name of their great great grandfather. I believe what the priest wrote after the top person on his chart Blair - "Stipes"

Key document enclosed.



was the priest, not knowing the man's name, was using a Latin word perhaps he heard but didn't use much so misspelled "Stirpes" and left out the "r" which means the line of descent from a person. Or he may have been using a term known back then but not used in modern times "Stripes" which one meaning is "tree branch" using that term how we call today "Family Tree".

Another person must have seen this document and assumed that Peter & Titus's father's name was "Stripes" Blair and put that on their <sup>ancestry.com</sup> Tree. Now other people have picked that up and there are 48 people's family trees on ancestry.com which list Peter Blair b. 1767 of Marion Co. Ky. - his father's first name as "Stripes". That is incorrect for reason's I mentioned above.

The priest's document, enclosed, however is very valuable as it identifies the children, some of them of the Peter Blair b. <sup>born</sup> 1767 in MD and went to KY just before 1800 and some of his nephews children of "Titus" born in MD, and went to Marion Co. KY.

Research into existing St Mary's Co. MD records show only two men living there of the Blair name who could be fathers of the Peter Blair (b. 1767 to Marion Co before 1800)'s nephews Charles, Joseph, Peter & Percival Blair. They are Joseph Blair born abt 1760 and Wm. Blair born about 1760. William's 1790, 1810, 1820 census don't match the ages of <sup>children</sup> Charles, Peter, Joseph & Percival, but Joseph's 1790, 1810, 1820 census do match. Which is a strong potential for them to be the children of Joseph Blair. So, perhaps "Titus" was a middle name or nickname of Joseph.

Key document  
enclosed →

Another key document enclosed, is from the pension file



application of the Joseph Blair born abt 1787 in MD, and who moved to Marion Co. KY between 1813-1820. He applied for a pension for his service in the War of 1812 in Capt. Blakistone's Regiment in MD. His application was not approved because he couldn't prove enough time in the service - however the valuable document in the file is an Affidavit from Peter Blair [born about 1793] that Peter wrote in Marion Co. KY. [Note this is the younger Peter there, not the Peter born 1767.] He wrote "the Affidavit that he 'is the brother of Joseph Blair applicant', ... 'I was well acquainted with Captain Blakistone, he lived in about seven miles of fathers house and Joseph Blair, the last time he went into the service volunteered under him" ... signed Peter Blair 27 Mar 1873 in Marion Co. KY.

Peter Blair used the term "fathers house" not our house or mother's house, so this indicated Peter & Joseph's father was living in 1812/1813 when Joseph served in War 1812. Census records of St. Mary's Co. MD show ["Capt"] Thomas Blakistone lived not far from the entry of the elder Joseph Blair born about 1760 whose 1810 census entry has boys the ages matching Charles, Joseph, Peter & Percival Blair who later moved to Marion Co. KY. The pension application of the younger Joseph Blair also stated he served in Ashton's Regiment in War 1812. MD service records for War of 1812 also show that Percival Blair, Joseph's brother served in Ashton's 48th Regiment of Maryland. Percival moved to Washington (later Marion) Co. KY.

All of this points strongly to the probability that Peter, Charles, Joseph & Percival Blair of Marion Co Ky who were born in MD were the sons of the only Blair in St. Mary's



Co. MD who census's match ages of these boys, There was only one other Blair in the census of St. Marys - William Blair whose children don't match the ages. The children match the MD. census of Joseph Blair.

Joseph Blair and the household composite of ages of children that match the children who later lived in Marion Co. KY, was listed in the 1790, 1800, 1810 census of St. Marys Co. Maryland. They are not listed in the 1820 census or after because they moved to KY. It appears that sometime after the War of 1812, Joseph Blair and his family moved to Washington Co (later Marion Co.) KY. as in the 1820 census there, a Mary Blair (presumably the <sup>widow</sup> wife of Joseph Blair) is enumerated with a household composite of ages of children that match the ages of children in the 1800/1810 census of Joseph Blair in St. Marys Co, MD. The family is living next door to Richard Blair, son of the Peter Blair born MD 1766, who I believe to be Joseph Blair's brother. Peter Blair's son Richard Blair is listed as Head of Household however Peter lived with him.

**Key document attached.** Pension File Application, Revolutionary War, of Joseph Clayton of the Virginia Line. (Can be viewed also on [www.fold3.com](http://www.fold3.com).)

On 22 March 1851, in Nelson Co. KY, Peter Blair of Washington (Marion Co.) KY wrote an Affidavit regarding Joseph Clayton's service.

"Peter Blair age 84, a resident of Washington Co. KY" states "he knew Joseph Clayton. ... He [Peter] had a brother John Blair who enlisted in the service at the same time and after the war was over, they both returned at the same time. ..."

Signed by Peter Blair.



This Peter Blair who did the Affidavit, was the Peter Blair born about 1766 in St. Mary's Co. MD. Peter's mentioning his brother John Blair serves to create some family links as will be evident by the next document.

**Key document attached.** St. Mary's County, Maryland Orphan Court Book "Inventories 1795 - 1807" pages 155 & 156. (On line at [www.familysearch.com](http://www.familysearch.com)).

The administrator of the estate of John Blair, Roswell Gibson, filed an estate inventory that was taken on Feb 10, 1788 in St. Mary's County, Maryland, of the effects of John Blair deceased. At the end of the Inventory it is written:

Kindred	Creditors
William Blair X his mark	Lucretia Blair X her mark
Joseph Blair X his mark	Mary Simpson X her mark

This links Peter Blair to Wm. Blair, Joseph Blair probably brothers of Peter & John Blair and to Lucretia Blair who I believe was their mother.

Roswell Gibson was also the Guardian of John Blair's orphan daughter Elizabeth Blair. Copies of the Accounts are attached. St. Mary's Orphan Court, Guardian Account Book 1798-1806 pg 82, 89, 284 & 285. (On line at [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org).)

Militia Records from St. Mary's County show that Peter Blair's brother John Blair enlisted in the Militia during the Revolutionary War for 9 months.



Key  
document  
attached.

St. Mary's Orphan Court Will Book JJNa2 pg. 291. (on line at familysearch.org.)

The will of Lucretia Blair of St. Mary's Co. MD.  
 Lucretia Blair ... bequeath to my granddaughter Mary Anderson  
 who <sup>now</sup> lives with me, all the property I do possess. ... my will and  
 desire is that my son Joseph Blair may have the safe keeping of  
 the aforesaid property untill my aforesaid granddaughter arrives  
 at the age of sixteen ... "

Signed Lucretia (her <sup>X</sup> mark) Blair  
 witnesses Roswell Gibson, Wm. Gibson Elizabeth Farrel

[The will was written in 1797 and proved in 1801]  
 Note: Roswell Gibson was also the administrator of John Blair's  
 estate & guardian of John Blair's child Elizabeth. He may be related  
 to the Blairs. Lucretia Blair is not listed as head of household  
 in the 1790 census - presumably she lived with her son Joseph. She  
 is listed in the 1800 census of St. Mary's Co. MD. so must have  
 died in 1800 late or early 1801.)

This will of Lucretia Blair, links her to her son Joseph  
 Blair which also links Lucretia to John Blair, Peter Blair,  
 and Wm. Blair as evidenced by the previous key documents  
 mentioned, which indicates she was the mother of these men  
 including the Peter Blair born about 1766 who lived in Marion Co. KY.

### TAX LISTS St. Marys County Maryland.

The only Blairs listed on the Tax Lists for St.  
 Marys Co. Maryland in published Tax Lists I viewed  
 were as follows:

(Also noted is the 1794 Militia List)



Key  
Information

St. Mary's Co. MD

1793 - 1796 Tax Lists

Peter Blair

Joseph Blair

William Blair

all above live in U/L St. Clements Hundreds  
are of St. Mary's County.

St. Mary's Co. MD

1794 Militia Lists

Peter Blair

Joseph Blair

William Blair

These above Tax Lists and Militia Lists support previous documents linkages that these 3 men were brothers: Wm. Blair born abt 1766 who stayed in St. Mary's Co. with his family; Peter Blair who moved to Washington (later Marion Co.) KY between 1797-1800; and Joseph Blair born about 1760 whose family moved in between 1813-1819 to Washington Co (later Marion Co) KY. and whose sons Charles, Peter, Percival in Joseph start showing up as heads of their own households in the 1830 census of Wash. Co. KY.

With courthouse fires in both Marion Co Ky & St. Mary's Co. MD destroying many records, this researcher has pieced together available remaining records which strongly show, unless future evidence proves otherwise, that Lucretia Blair was the mother of the Peter Blair born 1766 who moved to KY; of Joseph Blair whose family joined Peter and of Wm Blair who stayed in Maryland; and of John Blair the Per. War soldier who died late 1787 or 1788 in St. Mary's Co. MD. The priest's claim showing "Titus" as brother of Peter Blair and "Stripes" as their father is not correct for reasons previously mentioned. I believe "Titus" as reported to the priest by young Blairs who wanted to marry in 1890 was either vague recollection of a great grandfather they never knew and may have been Joseph Blair's middle name or nickname. Peter & Joseph, John & Wm.'s father is unknown, but mother is Lucretia. There also is a possibility that Lucretia's (over)

8

husband was also named Joseph Blair and that it is he who is the head of household in the 1790 census, not the son of Lucretia who was Joseph. That is speculative of course, without evidence, but whenever Lucretia Blair's husband was, he died before the 1793 St. Mary's County Tax lists were taken. Lucretia was listed as head of household in the 1800 census of St. Mary's Co. MD.

I have enclosed a chart of Relationships of the Blairs in St. Mary's Co. MD and the Blairs of Washington (Marion Co) KY.

Researched by

Marianne LeButt

124 Chestnut St. Apt 205

Englewood, Ohio 45322

e-mail mim200@juno.com





1790

William

over 16.  
born bef. 1774

wife

over 16  
born bef. 1774

No  
children

2 people.

1800

William

26-45  
(1755-1774)

wife

26-25

males (1790-1800)

under 10 William 1790

under 10

under 10

females (1790-1800)

under 10

under 10

7 people

Marriage license of Wm's son William born 1790  
Wm Blair = Mary Eliza Ellis 11 Jan 1841

William Blair

1810

William Blair

wife

over 45

males

16-26 (1784-1794) William 1790

10-16 (1794-1800)

under 10 (1800-1810)

under 10 (1800-1810)

under 10 (1800-1810)

females

16-26 (1784-1794)

10-16 (1794-1800)

10-16 (1794-1800)

under 10 (1800-1810)

under 10 (1800-1810)

10 people.

-113--12-1-  
Wm Gibson (copy)  
1820

widow

Jane

William Blair

died between

1810-1820.

males

10-16 (1794-1800)

Census' St. Mary's Co. MD  
for Wm. Blair born about  
about 1769 who  
in.  
had next door to Joseph Blair 1870 Census



1790

Joseph Blair

wife female

males

over 16 born before 1774

over 16 born before 1774

under 16 born bet. 1774-1790

under 16 born bet. 1774-1790

under 16 born bet. 1774-1790

female - Joseph's mother Lucretia,

female

3 over 16 males

3 under 16 males

4 females

10 people

Jos. brother

Peter

Jos. brother

William

Jos.'s son

Charles

Jos.'s son

Joseph

1800

Joseph Blair

26-45 (1755-1774)

wife

26-45 (1755-1774)

males

10-16 (1784-1790)

under 10 (1790-1800)

under 10 (1790-1800)

under 10 (1790-1800)

females

10-16 (1784-1790)

under 10 (1790-1800)

under 10 (1790-1800)

under 10 (1790-1800)

under 10 (1790-1800)

11 people

Living not far away is

Joseph's mother

Lucretia Blair age over 45

and female age 16-20 who

be her granddaughter Mary

Anderson.

Near her is her son

1810

Joseph Blair

over 45

born before 1765

wife

over 45

males

16-26 (1784-1794)

16-26 (1784-1794)

10-16 (1794-1800)

10-16 (1794-1800)

under 10 (1800-1810)

females

16-26 (1784-1794)

10-16 (1794-1800)

under 10 (1800-1810)

10 people

1820

no Joseph or his wife listed in St. Mary's Co.

in 1820 census. However

Mary Blair and children

show up next to

Peter Blair born 1766 MD

in the census of

Washington (later Marion)

County KY. Peter is

enumerated with his adult

son Richard Blair as head

of household.

The household comprised

in the 1820 Washington Co.

KY census matched

the 1810 census of Joseph

Blair's household in MD.

It appears that

some time after year of 1812

Joseph's family moved to

KY to join Joseph's

apparent brother Peter Blair

& Joseph died before the 1820

census.

1790 to 1820

census of St.

Mary's Co. Maryland.

of Joseph Blair

born about 1760.

Potential relationships.

The ages of the male

Blairs who went to Marion

Co. KY match the

ages in the Blair St. Mary's







1867	3 <sup>rd</sup> Apr. Last etc.	2.25
1 Chub 1/10		2.75
1 B. 2 <sup>nd</sup> etc. 1/10. 1868. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 2 <sup>nd</sup> Apr. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.25
1868 3 <sup>rd</sup> Apr. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		3.00
1868 4 <sup>th</sup> Apr. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.50
1868 5 <sup>th</sup> Apr. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 6 <sup>th</sup> Apr. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 7 <sup>th</sup> Apr. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 8 <sup>th</sup> Apr. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 9 <sup>th</sup> Apr. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 10 <sup>th</sup> Apr. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 11 <sup>th</sup> Apr. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 12 <sup>th</sup> Apr. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 13 <sup>th</sup> Apr. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 14 <sup>th</sup> Apr. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 15 <sup>th</sup> Apr. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 16 <sup>th</sup> Apr. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 17 <sup>th</sup> Apr. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 18 <sup>th</sup> Apr. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 19 <sup>th</sup> Apr. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 20 <sup>th</sup> Apr. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 21 <sup>st</sup> Apr. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 22 <sup>nd</sup> Apr. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 23 <sup>rd</sup> Apr. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 24 <sup>th</sup> Apr. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 25 <sup>th</sup> Apr. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 26 <sup>th</sup> Apr. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 27 <sup>th</sup> Apr. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 28 <sup>th</sup> Apr. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 29 <sup>th</sup> Apr. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 30 <sup>th</sup> Apr. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 31 <sup>st</sup> Apr. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 1 <sup>st</sup> May. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 2 <sup>nd</sup> May. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 3 <sup>rd</sup> May. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 4 <sup>th</sup> May. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 5 <sup>th</sup> May. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 6 <sup>th</sup> May. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 7 <sup>th</sup> May. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 8 <sup>th</sup> May. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 9 <sup>th</sup> May. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 10 <sup>th</sup> May. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 11 <sup>th</sup> May. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 12 <sup>th</sup> May. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 13 <sup>th</sup> May. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 14 <sup>th</sup> May. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 15 <sup>th</sup> May. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 16 <sup>th</sup> May. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 17 <sup>th</sup> May. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 18 <sup>th</sup> May. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 19 <sup>th</sup> May. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 20 <sup>th</sup> May. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 21 <sup>st</sup> May. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 22 <sup>nd</sup> May. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 23 <sup>rd</sup> May. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 24 <sup>th</sup> May. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 25 <sup>th</sup> May. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 26 <sup>th</sup> May. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 27 <sup>th</sup> May. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 28 <sup>th</sup> May. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00
1868 29 <sup>th</sup> May. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10. 1/10		2.00

I, Wm. May, County of the T<sup>h</sup> - Geo. be leave 18<sup>th</sup> Apr  
Thy came. Now do I, as, John May, late of  
said County, be, I make oath in the day where  
I am, the 1<sup>st</sup>, that the charge in writing, such as  
late, I suspect in good, Estate, the said demand,  
that have come to his lands or possessions, at the time of the  
making thereof, either which, with some or shall be  
after come. This, I, as, or possession, he will return in  
an additional inventory, that he knows of no conceal-  
ment of any part or parcel of the deceased Estate by  
any person whatsoever; & that if he shall hereafter dis-  
cover any concealment or disguise any to do he will re-  
surrender the same for the time being of the said land,  
for said County, or the Oge. River, for a County  
with such concealment or even, which, I, as, or  
it may be engaged into according to law —  
Testified by I, Wm. May, County of the T<sup>h</sup> - Geo.  
John May, County of the T<sup>h</sup> - Geo.

The Secretary of the Court of Castile of Aragon, in  
 full of his Majesty's Council, ordered, if he would give the  
 Indians, being there lawfully resident, seven

[illegible]

154  
Saint Marys County, Maryland, I made oath on the holy  
evangel, Calmly & truly that the foregoing is a true & correct  
inventory of all & singular the goods, of Chattels, of the said decedent  
that have come to his hands or possession, at the time of the  
making thereof, & that what hath since or shall hereafter come  
to his hands or possession, he will return in an additional and  
Inventory, which he knows of or Condemns, of any parcels here-  
of, of the same, or to state by any means whatsoever, & that if  
he shall hereafter receive any Condemns or purchase any thing  
he will recognize the debtors for the time being of the  
said County for St. Marys County, or the Judge of the said  
County with said Condemns, or cause of purchase thereof,  
it may be inquired into according to Law  
Tested by  
James A. Ireland, My wife  
of Saint Marys County, &c.

The Secretary of the Court of Chancery of John Davis, late  
of said County, Clerk, appeared by us L<sup>y</sup> Robt

To. Maring Apparles - - - - -	5 <sup>00</sup> 00
To. 2 Barrels Carbinets & Snipers Tools - - - - -	8 <sup>00</sup> 00
To 2 <sup>00</sup> 00 Cans - - - - -	00 15 00
To 1 pair Coat of Arms - - - - -	2 <sup>00</sup> 00
To 2 Barrels of Cash Wheel Powder - - - - -	5 <sup>00</sup> 00
To 2 Barrels of Walnut Planks - - - - -	3 <sup>00</sup> 12 00
To 2 Barrels of Ether Powder - - - - -	00 15 00
To four Chests - - - - -	2 <sup>00</sup> 50 00
To 100 lbs Window Glass - - - - -	00 40 00
To 1 Barrel of Leather - - - - -	00 15 00
To 3 small Pails - - - - -	00 00 00
To 1 barrel of Nail - - - - -	00 00 00
	36 <sup>00</sup> 10 00

To Cash	- - - - -		100 00
Hearsh, Hig	Creditors	Unpaid	3 <sup>th</sup> 40 C
Belmon Davis	Samp Lobs	Samp Hunt	
Gorge Davis	Joshua Estab	James Hunt	

At North Marys County, Lewis, the 5<sup>th</sup> day of May, 1799,  
There came George Lewis, widow of John Lewis, late of North  
Marys County, Lewis, & made oath on the holy evangel of  
almighty God, that the foregoing recite, a true & correct  
inventory of all of singular the Goods & Chattels of the decedent  
dece<sup>d</sup> Lewis, have come to his hands as a possessor of the same



Affidavit of Peter Blair of Marion Co. KY [born about 1797 in Maryland]  
27 March 1873 for his  
brother Joseph Blair's War of 1812  
Pension Application

Printed on Apr 2, 2013

State of Kentucky  
Marion County

Affiant Peter Blair  
States that he is the brother of  
Joseph Blair the applicant for  
pension for the war of 1812. &  
being duly sworn states that to his  
personal knowledge the said Joseph  
Blair served in said war for the  
period of Sixteen months Six months  
of said time as a drafted Soldier &  
ten months as a volunteer. I further  
swear the time I was with the youngest boy  
of the family & recollect many times  
that I carried clothing to said Joseph  
Blair while he was in the army  
down on the Patuxent River I was  
well acquainted with Captain Blackstone  
he lived in about seven miles of father's  
house & Joseph Blair the last time  
he went in the army volunteered  
under him. The first time he was  
drafted and went under Captain's  
Quinn. Affiant further states  
that he has no interest in this claim  
attest J. H. Lamer

Peter Blair  
March

J. H. Lamer  
Subscribed & sworn to before my birth

Peter Blair this 27<sup>th</sup> day of March 1873

G. M. Goodrum  
J. P. M. C.



CHART NUMBER

# FIVE GENERATION ANCESTRAL CHART NUMBERS IDENTIFY INDIVIDUALS

NAME

Revised Nov. 4, 2007

DATE PREPARED

1

Nettie Blair

Born 14 Dec. 1878  
Place Chicago, Loretto District, Marion Co. KY.  
Married about 1896  
Died 9 May 1963  
Place Lebanon, Kentucky

George Ferdinand Smith

Spouse son of Thomas Jefferson Smith  
Mary Jane Clark

born 23 April 1876  
place Loretto District, Marion Co. KY.  
died 12 July 1930  
place Lebanon, Kentucky

Name on line #1 on this chart  
is a continuation of name # \_\_\_\_\_  
on chart # \_\_\_\_\_

2

Thomas Christopher Blair

Born Ca 1829  
Place Loretto District, Marion Co. KY  
Married Ca ~~1857~~ Nov. 15, 1864 Holy Cross  
Died 1897 Marion Co. KY. Age 68  
Place Loretto District, Marion Co. KY.  
Will written: 24 Feb. 1897  
Will proved: 3 May 1897

4

Charles Blair

Born Ca 1782  
Place Marion  
Married 3 Nov. 1831 Wash  
Died 10 Apr 1847  
Place

5

Elizabeth Blair

Born Ca 1800  
Place Washington (now  
Died 19 Aug. 1885 or 18  
Place Loretto, Marion  
Married 1st to  
Henry Alvey 21 Nov  
Washington (now M

6

Henry Peterson

Born 1812  
Place Washington (now  
Married  
Died 1870 Marion Co.  
Place Age 68  
Will written: 3 May  
Will proved: 2 May

3

Mary Jane Peterson

Born 18 Dec. 1843  
Place Loretto District, Marion Co. KY.  
Died 7 Aug. 1922 Chicago,  
Place Marion Co. KY Age 78

Had a brother  
Thomas G. Peterson killed  
in Civil War.

7

Ann Bull

Born Ca 1821  
Place Washington Co.  
Died after 1880  
Place Loretto, Marion

List Information Sources On Back

RECORD FROM THE BIBLE OF THE WESTERN ROWLAND-  
SUSAN BLAIR TINGLE FAMILY, NELSON COUNTY

F A M I L Y R E C O R D .  
THE PROMISE IS UNTO YOU AND TO YOUR CHILDREN.

-----  
BAPTISM.  
-----

Fletcher Stamper Rowland was Baptized By  
Revd William Reynolds in Bardstown Ky

Zerelda Jane was Baptized by Revd H. H. Kavanaugh Bardstown Ky

Robert Henry, Delia ? & Emila was Baptized by  
Revd William Lastly P.E. at the Beachfork Campground

John Emory, William Tingle & Wilbur Fish was baptized by  
Revd James D. Holding at home in Chaplin in the year 1846  
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(The following entries were made by Robert Henry Rowland, son of Western and Susan.)

F A M I L Y R E C O R D  
MISCELLANEOUS

Western Rowland was born on the 28th day of July 1805 in  
the County of Woodford and State of Kentucky &  
was the Son of Richard and Ruth Rowland  
and his wife Susan Blair Tingle (was born) on the 16th day  
of October 1806 in Morgantown Monongahala Co. Virginia,  
Daughter of William and Jane Tingle

R H Rowland was born on the 27th day of January 1833  
in Bardstown Ky

Frances E Rowland born on the 1st day of January 1839  
in Paris Ill.

Married Nov 22nd 1865 at Paris Ill

Son Born September 27th 1866

Charlie Wilbur Rowland Born Nov 10th 1867

Edgar Emory Rowland September 28th 1869

John Stanley Rowland Born September 22nd 1871

Clifford Milton Rowland Born June 2nd 1873

Robert Marvin Rowland Born Jan 15th 1878

Roberta Martha Francis Rowland Born September 20th 1879  
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## QUERIES

8613 BLAIR, BURBA, HAGEN, LINTON, McKUNE, STARK, WILLETT: Searching for parents, siblings, and ancestors of Wm. Yerby Linton, b. 28 Dec. 1818, where? d. 26 May 1892, Nelson Co., KY., m/1. 11 June 1838, in Gethsemane, KY. to Mary Hagan, b. 11 Oct. 1815, where?, d. 27 June 1857. Children: Mary Ann, m. J. F. Stark, John E., Nannie, m. John F. Stark, Moriah Jennie, m. Ben Burba, Miles H. Wm. Y. Linton m/2. Louise Willett. Children: Monroe, Fronia, m. J. Blair, Vinia, m. B. McKune, William. Gladys M. Gerding, 300 Mansion House Center, 2002-C, St. Louis, MO. 63102.

8614 BENNETT, CALHOUN, CAMERON, COOK, ERWIN/IRWIN, JOHNSON, PRICE, SPROUL, WELCH, WOOLFOLK, WORTHINGTON. -- Henry Co., KY. Burnberry Bennett married in 1829, Elizabeth Sproul, James Erwin/Irwin married in 1824, Isabella Cameron, David Welch married in 1825, Catherine Cameron. Adam Woolfolk, married in 1797, Jefferson Co., KY., Nancy / Ann Calhoun. Robert and Elizabeth (Johnson) Price lived in Mercer Co., KY., 1830's. John B. Cook married in 1832, Lincoln Co., KY., to Susan Johnson. All Worthingtons anywhere. Karen Mauer Green, 2601 N. W. 23rd Blvd., #165, Gainesville, Florida 32605.

8615 JETER, KENDALL: Fielding Kendall (my gr-gr-grfa) was born 26 Oct. 1790 in Jefferson Co., KY., died 1 Dec. 1866 at Raymond, Miss., married 26 July 1812 at Ste Genevieve (New Bourbon) MO., to Emilie Greffar. Require his parent's names. His son, Willis Kendall, born 29 June 1833 in Jefferson Co., KY was my gr-gr-father. Ann America Jeter's father, Thomas Jeter (who were his parents?), married ca 23 Dec. 1802 in Jefferson Co., KY., to Sarah Benfield. I believe that he was born in Amelia Co., VA. Ann married Russell Parkhurst, (my gr-gr-grfa, Joseph Canfield / Caulfield) in Jefferson Co., KY. 8 Aug. 1836, Charles Drake, bondsman. Marjorie Harbath, 679 S. Reed Ct., A5-309, Lakewood, CO. 80226.

8616 ARMSTRONG, BRUMFIELD, MCGINNIS, RICHARDSON, TEWMEY: Desire to correspond regarding all these families. Isaac Armstrong, b. ca 1797, and wife, Elizabeth, lived in Washington Co., KY., had children: Isaac, Wm., James, Silas and probably others. His brother, James Ramsey Armstrong, b. 1787 PA., m. 1813 Mercer Co., KY. to Mary D. Richardson, dau. of John Richardson and Susan Brumfield, and had Elizabeth Ann, Susannah B., Tewmey, John R., Thomas James, Mary Jane McGinnis, Martha Ann, Isabella K., James A., Wm. C., Samuel Irvin, and Elijah Smith. Mrs. Catherine A. Hargreaves, 124 Larch, Saginaw, MI. 48602.

8617 DANIEL, DOUGLAS, JONES, RODES: Alfred Douglas married 10 August 1833, in Fayette County, KY., to Sarah Jones. J. C. Rodes and Pleasant Daniel were bondsmen. Would like to correspond with anyone interested in either of these families. Alfred Douglas is my great-grandfather. Mrs. Eleanor Poole Harris, 1716 Greenwood Avenue, Nashville, TN. 37206.

8618 ARNOLD, CALVERT, HAZEL: Need information to lengthen and branch out on direct line. Presley Calvert -(need wife and children), son William Richard Calvert, married 29 Jan. 1803 in KY., to Elizabeth Arnold. Some family reared in Lexington, KY. son, Price Arnold Calvert, born 18 Sept. 1805 in Lexington, KY. Married Perlina Hazel who was born 11 June 1816 in Lexington, KY. Will exchange information. Nellie E. Heward, 268 Bowline Drive, Vacaville, CA. 95688.

## QUERIES

8785 SIMCOE, SPAID, WHAYNE: Elizabeth (Whayne) Simcoe, widow of Simeon Simcoe, m. in 1816, in Jefferson Co., KY. to John Herr. Her brother, Isaac Whayne was executor of Simeon's estate in 1813. He moved to Daviess Co. Germain Simcoe, son of Simeon Simcoe and Rosetta Spaid, moved with him. When and where did Simeon and Elizabeth marry? Was Rosetta Simcoe a daughter of Elizabeth Whayne or of Rosetta Spaid? Any information on these families. Martha Easter, P. O. Box 343, Painted Post, N.Y. 14870.

8786 HUSBANDS: Seek information on Veasy Husbands. He was in Washington County, Kentucky in 1810 and in Mercer County, Kentucky in 1820. How was he related to Harman Husbands who lived in Christian County, Kentucky and later in Ballard Co., KY.? Would like to correspond with anyone who might be working on this family. I will exchange information. Mrs. Archie Haddox, Sr., 601 Tower Road, Nacogdoches, Texas 75961.

8787 HAIR(E), SMITH: Lewis Haire, b. 1825, d. 1904, and Millie Ann (Lockard) Haire, b. 1827, d. 1911, Breckinridge County, Custer, Bewleyville, Hudson area. Where buried? Parents? Brother, Benjamin. Children: Columbus, Emeline, Hannah, Elisa, Abraham, William, Lewis, Eldorado, Lovell, and Leander. Rev. George Smith, John Brown "Yank" Smith, McCracken County, KY. Exchange information. Roy Hair, Rt. 5, Box 49, Gilmer, Texas 75644.

8788 BLAIR, DAY: James Blair and his wife, Nancy Day, were both born in N. C. in 1781. They moved from Burke Co., N.C. to Adair Co., KY. (later Russell Co.) in 1814 with children James, Delila, John, Margaret and Burton. Born to them in Adair Co. were Morgan, Nancy, William, Thomas, Elizabeth and Emily. Who were the parents of James Blair and Nancy Day? How was James related to Colbert Blair and Sarah Morgan Blair of Burke Co.? Would like to correspond with anyone with information on the Blairs and Days. Ruth H. Hammann, 36 Park Lane, Madison, N. J. 07940.

8789 BARNETT, BRADLEY, FUGATE, PRATER, PREWITT, SHEPHERD: George Bradley, b. 1785 and children b. 1808-45, resided in Floyd-Breathitt Co., KY. area: Rebecca m. Hiram Prewitt, and David Shepherd; William; Mary m. Wilson Barnett; James; Susannah m. Nelson Barnett; Elias; Sarah m. Lorenzo Prater; Clarinda m. Jesse Fugate; George Wesley; Cynthia; John; Jacob; Wilson; Bryson; Anna. George said to be brother of Isaac, son of Wm. McAfee Bradley, native of County Mayo, Ireland. Need proof. Miss Martha Heinemann, 705 N. Belvedere, Memphis, TN. 38107.

8790 CAMPLIN, DUCKWORTH, MOORE: Samuel Moore - father of Catherine (Moore) Duckworth, Henry Moore and Louisa (Moore) Camplin, according to deed in Bath Co., KY. dated 12 Sept., 1831. Was this Samuel Moore the same as listed in the "MASTER INDEX OF SURVEYS AND GRANTS" - Samuel Moore, 400 acres, Fayette Co., KY., Small Mountain and Upper Salt Springs, surveyed 17 May, 1784? Harlan E. Hicks, 3802 E. 39th St., Indianapolis, IN. 46226.

8791 ADAMS, CRABTREE, JOHNSON, LITTLE: Looking for any record on Patrick Johnson, Spencer Adams, Reece Crabtree, Isaac Little, Samuel Little before 1800. Need a marriage record on (male) Davis and (female) Early before 1795. All lived in KY. at one time of their life. Mrs. Jim Little, 3332A River Bluff Road, Prospect, KY. 40059.



# RECORD FROM THE BIBLE OF THE WESTERN ROWLAND- SUSAN BLAIR TINGLE FAMILY, NELSON COUNTY

Ruth Rowland Green, who provided copies of the original family record pages in this Bible, descends from Western and Susan B. Tingle Rowland. "My Uncle Edgar Rowland (born 1869) had the Bible years ago," writes Mrs. Green, and "had a copy made for me." The whereabouts of the old Bible is not known.

## F A M I L Y R E C O R D . BRING UP YOUR CHILDREN IN THE ADMONITION OF THE LORD

### BIRTHS

Born on the 28th day of July 1805 in the County of Woodford  
and State of Kentucky Western Rowland  
son of Richard and Ruth Rowland  
(See "Roster of First Kentucky Ancestors," Kentucky Ancestors, Vol. 23, No. 4, p. 300.)

Was Born on the 16th day of October 1806 in Morgantown  
Monongahala County Virginia Susanah Blair Tingle  
Daughter of William and Jane Tingle

Fletcher Stamper Rowland Was born on the 30th day of  
December 1828 in Bardstown Nelson County Kentucky

Zerelda Jane Daughter of Western and Susanah Blair Rowland  
was born on the 3rd day of November 1830  
in Bardstown Nelson County Kentucky

Robert Henry Rowland was born on the 27th day of January  
1833 in Bardstown Kentucky

Delia Co?e Rowland was born on the 25th day of January  
1835 in Chaplin Nelson County Kentucky

Emila Rowland was born on the 17th day of May 1837  
in Chaplin Nelson County Kentucky

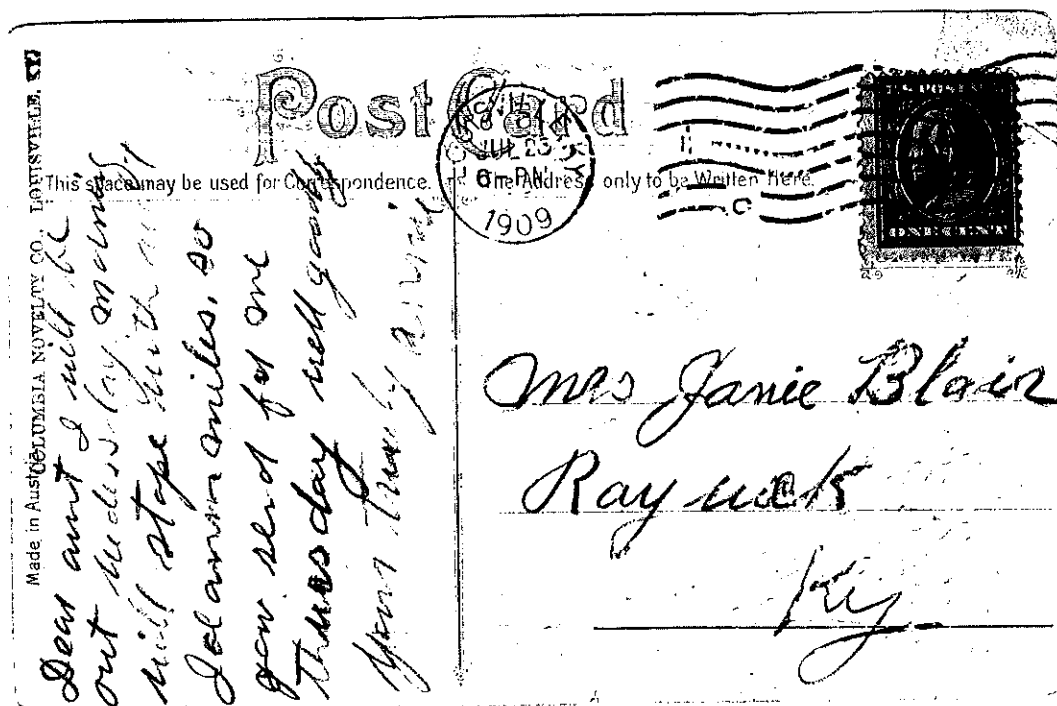
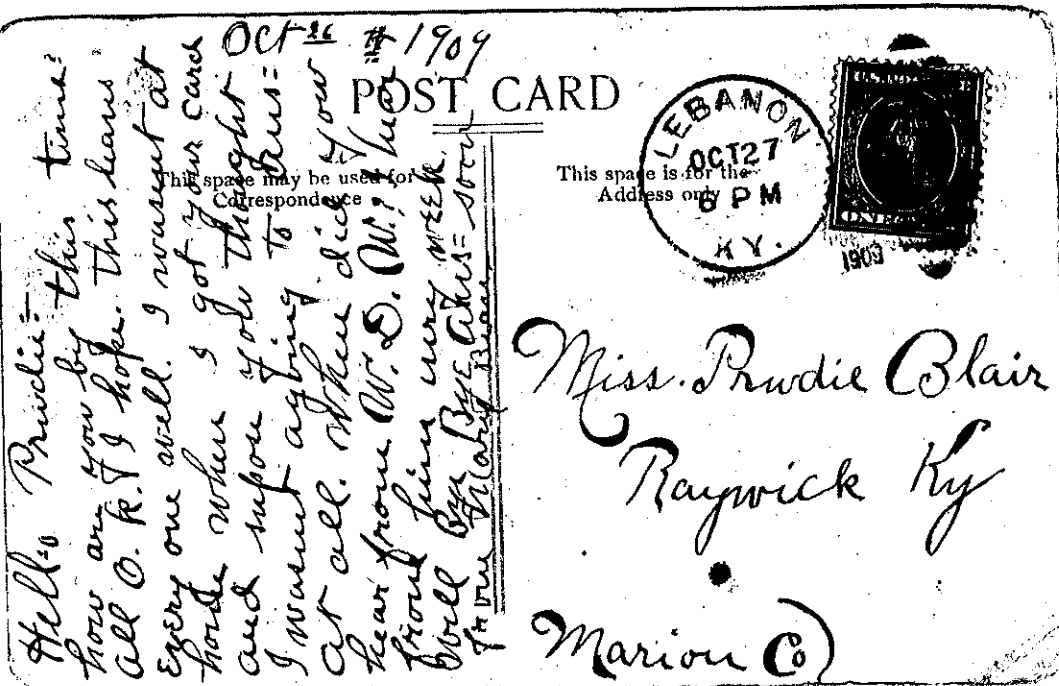
John Emory Rowland was born on the 17th day of July  
1839 in Chaplin Nelson County Kentucky

William Tingle Rowland was born on the 15th day of February  
1842 in Chaplin Nelson County Ky

Wilbur Fish Rowland was born on the 15th day of February  
1846 in Chaplin Nelson County Ky

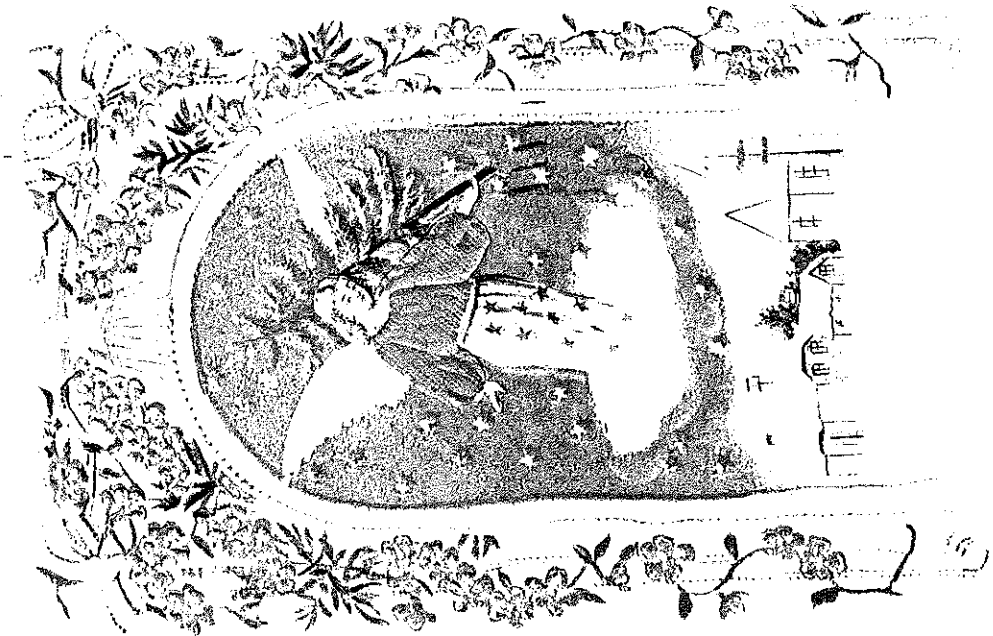
Edwin Combs Rowland was born on the 22nd of April  
1847 in Chaplin Nelson County Ky

Wallace Tucker Rowland was born on the 11th of July  
1848 in Nelson County Ky





PROCTOR KNOTT CHAUTAUQUE GROUNDS, LEBANON, KY.  
J. MILLER, PHOTO.





St. Mary's Orphan Court

Guardian Accounts Book 1798-1806 pg. 82

1st Account of Roswell Gibson guardian of Elizabeth Blair  
daughter of John Blair

22 Feb  
1799

82  
Saint Marys County to wit the 25<sup>th</sup> day of February 1799  
then came Bennet Stewart of B. side his wife Guardian to  
Charles Smith, orphan of Oliver Smith & made oath on the  
sacrament of a mighty God that the foregoing account as stated  
is true & true of that they have been paid & paid over  
to be paid the particular sums for which they claim an  
allowance; which thereupon after due examination is  
By Jeremiah Jordan Reg. writer for St. Marys County

The first account of ~~Elizabeth~~ Roswell Gibson  
Guardian to Elizabeth Blair, orphan of John Blair late  
of Saint Marys County deceased. This account charges  
himself with the balance due said orphan of 19. 10. 0  
her Father's Estate

also with said orphans distributive part of her  
grand father Thomas Thompsons Estate 28. 15. 11

also with said orphans distributive part of her  
grand Mother Elizabeth Thompsons Estate 19. 19. 12

He also charges himself with one year's Interest 68. 6. 8 1/2  
And his accountant prays to be allowed 72. 8. 8 1/2

for the following payments & Disbursements to wit,  
Of Request of will fees paid on acct. being appointed Guardian 12. 9  
Of same to be paid for attesting passings  
and recording his accounts 9. 9. 9

Balance due of accountable 71. 6. 2 1/2

Saint Marys County to wit the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of February 1799, then came Roswell Gibson  
Guardian to Elizabeth Blair orphan of John Blair  
late of Saint Marys County deceased, and made oath on the  
sacrament of a mighty God that the foregoing account as stated  
is true and true and that he hath been paid & paid over  
to be paid the particular sums for which by claim an  
allowance; which thereupon after due examination is  
By Jeremiah Jordan Reg. writer for Saint Marys County

By Jeremiah Jordan Reg. writer  
for Saint Marys County

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St. Mary's County, Maryland Orphan Court  
Book - Guardian Accounts 1798-1806 pg. 89.

3 March 1800 2nd Account of Roswell Gibson for John Blair's orphan Elizabeth Blair

The second account of Roswell Gibson, Guardian to Elizabeth Blair, orphan of John Blair late of Saint Mary's County deceased. This account he charges himself with the balance due at his last settlement the 20<sup>th</sup> day of February 1799 amounting to £ 71. 6. 7 1/2. He also charges himself with 20 years Interest thereon £ 5. 5. 6 1/2.

And this accountant prays to be allowed for the following payments & Disbursements to wit, £  
Of Registry of wills fees to be paid for stating & proving & recording this account. 0. 8. 9  
Balance due and accountable. 75. 3. 0

Which Saint Mary's County, to wit, the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March 1800. Then came Roswell Gibson, Guardian to Elizabeth Blair orphan of John Blair late of Saint Mary's County deceased and made oath on the holy evangelists of a true and correct statement of the foregoing account as stated in List of true and correct bills which he has paid or secured to be paid the particular sums for which he claims an allowance, which the court after due examination is satisfied by Jeremiah Jordan Esq. for Saint Mary's County.

The second account of John Hignith, Guardian to John Perquimans Hignith, orphan of Robert Hignith, late of Saint Mary's County deceased. This accountant charges himself with the balance due at his last settlement the 18<sup>th</sup> day of December 1793 amounting to £ 99. 9. 8 1/2.

He also charges himself with the hire of a negro man named Joe, from 1<sup>st</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup> 1794 to 1<sup>st</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup> 1798 a £ 40. 0. 0 also with wages of George Whiteman £ 8. with 4 years Interest thereon 9. 14. 2 also with wages of same £ 4. with 4 years Interest thereon 4. 14. 2.

And this accountant prays to be allowed for the following payments & Disbursements to wit, £  
Of County Tax paid Sheriff for the years 1794. 1795. 1796 & 1797. 0. 16. 8 1/2  
Of allowed this accountant for Board & Cloathing for said orphan from Jan<sup>y</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> 1794 to Jan<sup>y</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> 1798. 41. 9. 1 1/2

(Carried forward)



St. Mary's County Maryland Orphan Court  
Book- Guardian's Accounts 1798-1806 Pg. 284 & 285

13 Dec 1803 Third & Final Account of Roswell Gibson for John Blairs

orphan  
Elizabeth  
Blair

Milburn  
Cuthbert Abell  
accountants charge  
Settlement current money  
£ 61 12 6 1/2  
3 13 11 1/2  
Land 5 0 0  
5 0 0  
2 0 0  
77 6 6  
ed for  
to wit  
ing and  
15 1 11 1/2  
a fine  
0 12 0  
15 13 11 1/2  
le 61 12 6 1/2  
July 1803. £ 77 6 6

Milburn his wife  
Cuthbert Abell late of  
on the Holy Evangel  
stated is just and  
red to be paid the  
wance; which there

dan Reg-wills  
Mary's County

Milburn  
Orphan of Cuthbert

Abell late of Saint Mary's County deceased. These accountants  
charge themselves with the balance due at their last  
settlement the 5<sup>th</sup> day of August 1802 amounting to. } £ 80 12 6 1/2  
Also with one years interest thereon } 5 1 1/2  
Also with the annual rent of said orphan Land } 5 0 0  
Also with the hire of a negro boy Tom } 5 0 0  
£ 99 13 8 1/2

And these accountants pray's to be allowed for the  
following payments and Disbursements to wit. }  
Of allowed this accountants for Board, cloathing  
and schooling said orphan one year } 11 10 7 1/2  
Of register of mills fees to be paid for stating, passing  
and recording this account } 0 10 6  
15 1 1/2  
Balance due and accountable } 80 12 6 1/2  
£ 99 13 8 1/2

Saint Mary's County, to wit, the 9<sup>th</sup> day of August 1803. -  
Then came Thomas Greenwell and Mary Milburn his wife Guar-  
dian to Mary Simmonds Abell orphan of Cuthbert Abell late  
of Saint Mary's County. deceased and made oath on the Holy Evan-  
gels of Almighty God. that the foregoing account as stated is just  
and true and that they have bonafide paid or secured to be paid the  
particular sums for which they claim an allowance which there  
upon after due examination is passed

By. Jeremiah Jordan Reg<sup>r</sup> Mills  
for Saint Mary's County,

The third and final account of Roswell Gibson Guardian to Elizabeth  
Blair orphan of John Blair late of Saint Mary's County deceased. - This  
accountant charges himself with the balance due at his last settlement  
the 5<sup>th</sup> day of March 1800, amounting to. } £ 75 3 0



St. Mary's County Maryland Orphan Court  
 Book - Guardian's Accounts 1798-1806 Pg. 285 & 285

13 Dec. 1803 Third & Final Account of Roswell Gibson for John Blair's orphan Elizabeth

285

He also Chargeth himself with one Years Interest there on

And this accountant prays to be allowed for the

following payments and Disbursements to wit.

Of allowed this accountant for negro Nan who died since

passing last account.

Of register of mills fee to be paid for stating passing

and recording this account.

Balance due and accountable

Current money		
44	10	2
179	13	2

25 0 0

0 9 3

25 9 3

54 3 11

79 13 2

Saint Mary's County, to wit, the 15<sup>th</sup> day of September 1803.

Then came Roswell Gibson Guardian to Elizabeth Blair orphan  
 of John Blair late of Saint Mary's County, deceased, and made oath  
 on the Holy Evangel of Almighty God, that the foregoing account  
 as stated is just and true and that he hath bona fide paid or secured  
 to be paid the particular sums for which he claims an allowance;  
 which there upon after due examination is passed.

By Jeremiah Jordan Reg<sup>r</sup> Mills  
 for Saint Mary's County.

The Eighth and final account of Wilfred Goodrum Guardian to  
 Thomas Thompson orphan of Thomas Thompson late of Saint Mary's  
 County, deceased, This accountant Chargeth himself with the balance  
 due at the last settlement made by Roswell Gibson his attorney  
 the 30. day of July 1802, amounting to

He also Chargeth himself with the annual rent of

said orphans Land

Also with the hire of a negro woman named Jane.

And this accountant prays to be allowed for the

following payments and Disbursements to wit.

Of allowed this accountant for Wilfred Goodrum Short

allowance in his second account

Of allowed same for Sundry Goods Schooling and Board

He in Kentucky

44 7 9

12 0 0

5 0 0

160 7 9

4 10 0

58 2 10

Of register of  
 recording the

Saint Mary.  
 Then came W  
 Thomas Thom  
 on the Holy  
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 an allowan

The  
 Hopewell, o.  
 deceased -  
 at his last  
 amounting  
 He also Ch.  
 Also with the

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 for the re  
 of County  
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 being the



ilda More of St.  
do make ordain  
testament hereby revoke  
is leave my Heir  
but self- Item  
four chairs one  
Kettle - Item, I give  
green my case of Drums  
ive to my cousin Ann  
Green's Children my  
and my brother  
the next choice  
ggs to be Equally divid  
pay Leigh - Item  
Dutch oven - Item  
will & desire further is  
bond to the church  
sire Richard Leigh  
nge bottles one or one  
Testament in Mitnefs  
tenth day of May  
More Dear

the following, to wit:  
18. The within will  
being, and after full  
rined & ordered by the  
by them and that the  
in Regt. Mills  
Mary's County.

Bennet Nottingham  
of Kentucky now in a  
nd mind and good ones  
do constitutes this to  
goods as follows, to wit:  
tually paid - Item 2-  
shall be exposed to  
by twenty five pounds  
Sale of my Lands &  
I do will and bequeath  
ignatus, Ann ala-  
any of the above  
Before they arrive  
be divided  
heirs as they  
comes

come of age - Item - 4<sup>th</sup> I do will and bequeath unto the Revd. Mr. Turney five  
Pounds to be paid out of my Personal Estate and six Dollars to be paid to Jeremi-  
ah Gough - Item - 5<sup>th</sup> I do will and bequeath all and every of the balance of my  
Estate to Catherine Greenwell, Ellenor Winset, Barbary Bailey, Elizabeth  
Medley & Rebecca Nottingham to be equally divided amongst them and to be  
paid to them as soon as soon as the nature of the case will admit - Item 6<sup>th</sup> - and  
as my Negr. boy Jack is to be sold and I greatly desire his Wellfare - It is my  
earnest desire that James Gough shall have the first refusal of him who  
lives in Scott County. Item I do appoint and constitute Thomas Gaddin  
of Saint Mary's County and State of Maryland my Executor -  
Test

Henry Smock, } Richard Fenwick } Spalding  
John Taylor, }

On the Back of the foregoing was the following, to wit:  
At a County Court held for Washington County on Tuesday the 7<sup>th</sup> day of May 1801  
this last Will and Testament of Bennet Nottingham deceased, was proved by the  
oaths of Henry Smock, Richard Fenwick Spalding and John Taylor and ordered  
to be recorded, and leave reserved for Executor to obtain Letters &c  
Attest William Caldwell

State of Kentucky, Washington County, to wit:  
I John Reed Clerk of the County Court for the County aforesaid do hereby Certify  
that the foregoing is a true Transcript of the original, filed in my office  
In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal  
of said County, this tenth day of August 1801. In the 10<sup>th</sup> year of the  
Commonwealth  
John Reed

519-11-2 Ed  
Lucretia Blair  
her last Will  
In the name of God Amen, I Lucretia Blair being  
weak of body but of a sound mind memory and under-  
standing do make this my last Will and Testament in  
manner and form following, - I. my will and desire is, that all my Just Dittie  
be paid, Item I give and bequeath unto my Son and Daughter Mary An-  
derson who now lives with me, all the property I now possess of, to her  
and her heirs, forever; Lastly my will & Desire is that my son Joseph  
Blair, may have the safe keeping of the aforesaid property, until my aforesaid  
said Son and Daughter arrives to the age of sixteen, or Marriage - In witness my  
hand and seal this thirteenth day of November one thousand seven hundred and ninety  
seven -  
Witness - Roswell Gibson  
Elizabeth Ferrel  
Lucretia Blair

On the back of the foregoing was the following, to wit:  
Saint Mary's County, Ky. the 9<sup>th</sup> day of November, 1801. Then came Roswell Gibson  
one of the three subscribing witnesses to the within last Will & Testament of Lucretia  
Blair, late of Saint Mary's County, deceased, and made Oath on the holy evangelists  
of almighty God, that he did see the Testatrix therein named, sign & seal this will  
and that he heard her publish, pronounce and declare the same to be her last Will  
& Testament that at the time of her so doing she was to the best of his apprehensions  
of sound & disposing mind, memory & understanding, and that he subscribed his  
name as a witness to this Will in the presence & at the request of the Testatrix, and  
also, in the presence of William Gibson & Elizabeth Ferrel the other two witnesses  
who he did see subscribe the same in the presence and at the request of the  
said Testatrix  
Certified by Jeremiah Jordan Regt. Wills  
for Saint Mary's County



By running the lines of the Endowed Organ, I think I can find the following impediments

4th Blair's tips.

Mr Blair	John Blair	Robert Blair	John Blair
Richard Blair	Charles Blair	Richard Blair	Robert Blair
Catherine Blair	Maria Blair	Catherine Blair	Richard Blair
Sarah Jane Blair	Charles Blair	Sarah J. Blair	Ch. C. Blair

From Peter Blair's

Richard Blair	Delaney Blair	Richard Blair	Charles Blair
Catherine Blair	Maria Blair	Catherine Blair	Richard Blair
Sarah Jane Blair	Ch. C. Blair	Sarah Jane Blair	Charles Blair

John Blair's

Louisa Blair	Charles Blair	Louisa Blair	Peter Blair
Catherine Blair	Maria Blair	Catherine Blair	Richard Blair
Sarah Jane Blair	Ch. C. Blair	Sarah J. Blair	Charles Blair

From the same

Joseph Blair	Peter Blair	Joseph Blair	Charles Blair
Delaney Blair	Richard Blair	Delaney Blair	Maria Blair
Sarah Jane Blair	Charles Blair	Sarah J. Blair	Ch. C. Blair

That is two impediments of the 4th degree equal in line and two impediments in 8th — equal in line and blood.

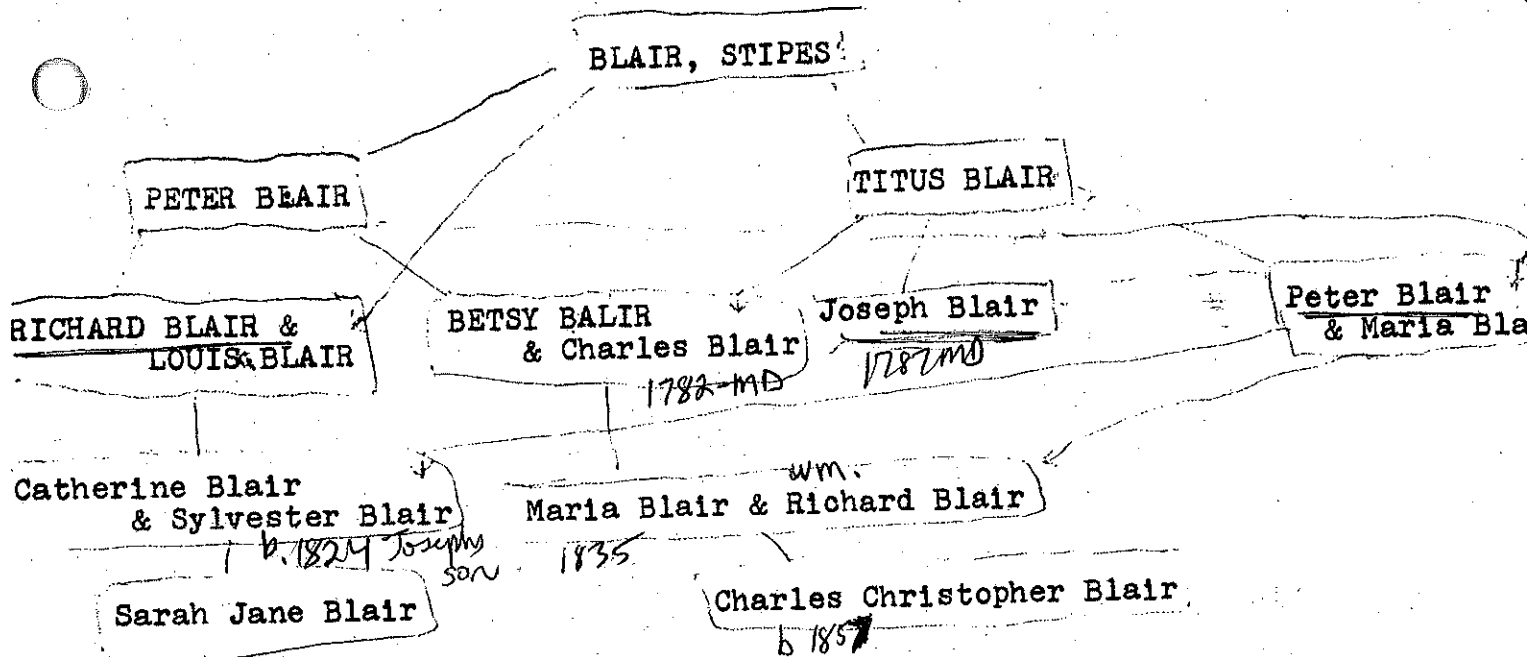
Altogether eight impediments of consanguinity. I believe they should give it up, else they will run out the good sense of the Blair family. But if they insist, try to find out all possible reasons for the dispensation. And I will send the applications to Rome, for, from various answers or decisions given during the last few years, I do not believe that our Bishops have power to dispense in such accumulations of impediments.

Yours faithfully  
M. P. French

I have answered sooner but the case required consideration.

New York

LAIR



Richard Blair man Louisa Blair, dau of Mary April 1825  
Washington Co. New York

Peter Blair man Maria Blair, dau of Peter Jan. 1825  
Washington Co. New York

Blair application for marriage dispensation as given in Bouchet's Letter Book  
p.242  
(In my files.) 1882

1850 census Mann Co.	1860 Harding Co. sp
Joseph Blane 63	P.O. Ryghensby & Harbely
Susan 15	Sylvester Blair 33
Zachariah 16	A.C. Blain 33
Elizab. 14	James M. Blain 10
Joseph 12	Couisa 8
Sarah A 10	Joe 8? 6
next door	Sarah J. 43
Silvester 24	Augusta 4
Mary C. 24	
James M.	

In took Washington Co Ky Marriage Record 1792-1878  
by Margaret Clark Kington

Blair, Wilfred m. Mary Wathen (m. Ant. Gamih / Bk. 1-203 Bk 3-  
catholic.

① 1850 Census p. 53 Blair Wilford.  
② 1850 " p. 55 Blair, Rich

" " " Bk  
" " " Parthena

③ 1860 p. 36 Blair Mary

④ Marriages Wash Co. Blair. p 13

⑤ letter to Mac Blair

⑥ St. Francis, Catholic Cemetery by Ft Hayden

(205) 885-1000  
ГЕВУНОМ КЕНШОКА 10000-1130  
301 EYGLI WYM BLWEEI  
ИУУНОМ СОЛЛА БУВТС ПРВУНХ

P.O. Box 380  
CLIFTON PARK NY 12065

Michael Twinam

~~120 Box 13835~~  
~~Albany NY 12212~~

LUCA'S  
+ Blair-

9-12-90

Dear Sir or Madam:

Am trying to get information on the surnames  
of Lucas + Blair that were in your area  
in the early 1800's.

A Charles Lucas was reported to be Roman  
Catholic & the Blair I am not real sure  
about.

Any information or guidance you can give  
me would be appreciated.

Thank you.

Moe Blair

720 Northwood Dr.

Huntingdon, Tx. 75844

Blair  
**Marion County Public Library**

201 East Main Street  
LEBANON, KENTUCKY 40033

June 27, 1991

Mac Blair

720 Northwood Drive  
[redacted], TN 38344

Dear Mr. Blair:

In response to your letter dated Sept. 12, 1990, the following information was found:

"An Index to the 1820 Federal Census of KY, Vol.IV, Counties Ohio through Woodford":

Lucas, Charles Warren County page 44 line 25

"An Index to the 1810 Federal Census Of KY, Vol.IV, Counties Nelson through Woodford":

Lucas, Charles Warren County page 243 line 29

"Kentucky 1830 Census Index, Vol. VI, Counties Scott through Woodford":

Lucas, Charles Washington County page 157

"Kentucky 1850 Census Index" (entire state):

Lucas, Charles, Warren County District 113

Lucas, Charles, Breckinridge County District 067

Lucas, Charles, Breckinridge County District 062

MARION COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
201 EAST MAIN STREET  
LEBANON, KENTUCKY 40033-1133  
(502) 692-4698

"Washington County Ky. Marriage Records 1792-1878" by Margaret Clark Kington:

Lucas, Charles and Elizabeth Cissell - bond 22 Nov 1825, Minister, Joseph Rogers, Bk 3 p.18

Lucas, Ben and Patsey Lucas - bond 2 Nov 1831, Bondsman Charles Lucas, Bk 2 p.306

"St. Charles Cemetery Book" by Gerald Thompson:

BLAIR, AMANDA C.; born:10-6-1866 to Joseph & Frances M.(Tucker)Blair; never married;  
died:10-19-1869; This stone is no longer standing.

BLAIR, MARY JANE (WATHEN): born: 1805 to Sylvester & Sarah (Semmes) Wathen in Washington Co.  
Ky.; married Wilford Blair, Sr.(1794-1851) on May 16,1821 by Fr.Anthony  
Ganilh in Washington Co., Ky.; This stone is no longer standing.

BLAIR, R.H.: born: 8-20-1862; died 4-17-1879; never married.

BLAIR, WILFORD, born around 1794 in Maryland; died:12-21-1851; married Mary Jane Wathen,  
(1805-1864), 5-16-1821 by Fr. Ganilh, in Washington Co., KY.

for rest of letter see LUCAS  
file



Witness my hand, this 5 day of April 1897  
 J.P. Carter Clerk  
 By Elvira Kelly Jr. S.B.

WILL OF

JAMES SHIPP.

State of Kentucky,  
 Marion County.

I James Shipp being of sound mind and disposing memory but old and feeble in body and calling to mind the uncertainty of life and being desirous to dispose of my worldly estate with which God hath blessed me proceed now to make this my last will and testament wherein I now own a tract of 100 acres of land same land deeded to me by E.H. Morris and one horse and one cow together with all my household and kitchen furniture, which I wish to dispose of in my own way while in my right mind wherein it is my will that when I depart this life that all my burial expenses be first paid, out of this property. Provided, there be no other funds on hand whereby it could be paid, then after said debt or expenses have been paid, then my last will and desire is that all the above named property both real and personal, or the residue thereof shall pass to my daughter Elvira Shipp, her natural life then at her death whatever of the above property may be on hand shall be sold and disposed of as follows (to-wit) in order to make certain here equal equal with my daughter Marriam Nibb who has received \$400.00 from me I desire that Laura Ann be paid \$20.00 and Geo. Shipp be paid \$22.00 and J.C. Shipp \$40.00 out of said property as the proceeds thereof then after these amounts shall have been paid if any residue be left then it shall be equally divided between the above named children as my son Robert

Shipp has already been paid his full share to balance again whatever may be paid the above deficient named here. I further will and desire that W.D. McFarland of Taylor County act as my executor to carry out my desire in this will. December the 11<sup>th</sup> 1896.

Witness  
 J.T. McFarland  
 J.C. Martin

State of Kentucky,  
 County of Marion.

At a County Court held in and for said County, on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of April 1897 the foregoing paper purporting to be the last will and testament of James Shipp, deceased, was produced in Open Court and proven by the oaths of J.T. McFarland and J.C. Martin, the two attesting witnesses, thereto, and ordered to record as the last will and testament of said James Shipp deceased. Whereupon I have recorded it and this certificate.

Witness my hand, this 7 day of April 1897.  
 J.P. Carter Clerk  
 By Elvira Kelly Jr. S.B.

WILL OF

T. CHLAIR

This my last will and testament: I will that my entire estate of both personal and real shall go to my wife Mary Jane Blair at my death so long as she may remain a widow, but in event she should again marry, then & there I desire that she may have her part of my estate as may be set aside by law and all of my children to have a share and share alike. As Sidney and George Blair my deceased sons were indebted to me at the time of their death, I desire that these amounts respectively be kept against them and in the final distributions of my estate their indebtedness to me to be deducted from their part but no interest on these amounts is to be



changed. I desire that my four youngest children Aaron, Cary, Mary & Lea shall be educated out of my estate without any charges against them in order that they may stand equal with the rest of my children in that respect. I also state that the children of Sidney & Lella Blair & James & Lella Blair should did then what might be going to Sidney & James Blair will revert back to my estate. At the death of my wife Mary Jane Blair I desire that my son Oscar Blair and son-in-law Fred Smith become my administrators with assistance of C. A. Ballard. To wind up my estate to the best advantage. Now in case that my children or grand children are under age at the death of my wife Mary Jane Blair. I desire that their infants to have good & substantial guardians.

Witness my hand, this 24<sup>th</sup> of February, 1897.

J. P. Osborn  
C. A. Ballard

State of Kentucky  
County of Marion

At a County Court held in and for said County on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May 1897, the foregoing paper purporting to be the last will and testament of J. C. Blair, deceased, was produced in open Court and proven by the oaths of J. P. Osborn and C. A. Ballard, the two attesting witnesses thereto, and ordered to record, as the last will and testament of J. C. Blair, deceased. Whereupon I have recorded it and this certificate.

Witness my hand, this May 3<sup>rd</sup> 1897.

A. P. Carter Clerk  
By Alexander J. D. C.

Will of

Mary J. Osborn

In the name of God, I, Mary J. Osborn being of sound mind & disposing memory make this my last will and testament. 1<sup>st</sup> I desire my hereinafter named Executive as soon as practicable after my death to pay all my just debts & funeral expenses 2<sup>nd</sup> I give and bequeath all my property both real & personal of every kind to my daughter Mrs Kate Meeks 3<sup>rd</sup> I hereby constitute & appoint my daughter Mrs Kate Meeks my Executive & request of the Honorable Judge of the Marion County Court to so appoint her without bond. This 20<sup>th</sup> of Feb. 1897. Mary J. Osborn

The above will was signed by Mrs Mary J. Osborn in our presence & by us in her presence at her request the will having been read first & she said Osborn being of sound mind the day & year aforesaid

W. E. Mattingly  
John W. Crume

State of Kentucky  
County of Marion

At a County Court held in and for said County on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May 1897, the foregoing paper purporting to be the last will and testament of Mary J. Osborn, deceased, was produced in open Court and proven by the oaths of W. E. Mattingly and John W. Crume, the two attesting witnesses thereto, and ordered to record. Whereupon I have recorded it and this certificate.

Witness my hand, this May 3<sup>rd</sup> 1897.

A. P. Carter Clerk  
By Alexander J. D. C.

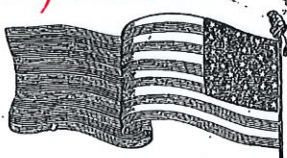


War of 1812 Military  
Bounty Land Warrant.

Joseph Blair born in Maryland who  
died in  
Marion Co. KY

163 From:

Bureau of  
Land Management  
website



# THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

To all to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting:

**WHEREAS**, In pursuance of the Act of Congress, approved March 3, 1855, entitled "An Act in addition to certain Acts granting Bounty Land to certain Officers and Soldiers who have been engaged in the military service of the United States," there has been deposited in the GENERAL LAND OFFICE, Warrant No. 46460 for 160 acres, in favor of Joseph Blair Private Captain Blackstones Company Maryland Militia War 1812

with evidence that the same has been duly located upon the South East quarter of Section thirty four in Township eleven north of Range eleven east in the district of lands subject to sale at Nebraska city Nebraska containing one hundred and sixty acres

according to the Official Plat of the Survey of said Lands returned to the GENERAL LAND OFFICE by the SURVEYOR GENERAL the said Warrant having been assigned by the said Joseph Blair to Henry Werten dyke in whose favor said tract has been located

NOW KNOW YE, That there is therefore granted by the UNITED STATES unto the said Henry Werten dyke as assignee as aforesaid and to his heirs

the tract of Land above described: TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said tract of Land, with the appurtenances thereof, unto the said Henry Werten dyke as assignee as aforesaid and to his heirs

heirs and assigns forever.

In testimony whereof, I, James Buchanan  
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, have caused these Letters to be made Patent, and the SEAL OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE to be hereunto affixed.



GIVEN under my hand, at the CITY OF WASHINGTON, the sixth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty, and of the INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES the Edg 17th

BY THE PRESIDENT: James Buchanan

By J. A. L. Sec'y.  
J. N. Granger Recorder of the General Land Office.



Birth:	Feb. 15, 1833 Loretto Marion County Kentucky, USA
Death:	Apr. 14, 1897 Loretto Marion County Kentucky, USA

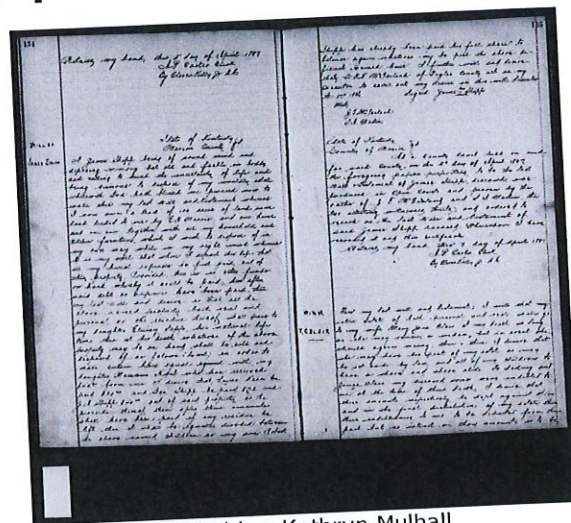
T.C. Blair is presumed son of of Charles Blair and Elizabeth "Betsey" Blair Alvey Blair, m. in Washington County Nov. 3, 1831. Betsey m. first John Henry Alvey Jr. recorded Nov 21, 1821. Need more complete records.

From: KENTUCKY AND KENTUCKIANS, by E.  
Polk Johnson, Lewis Publishing Company.  
Smith & Blair Co.

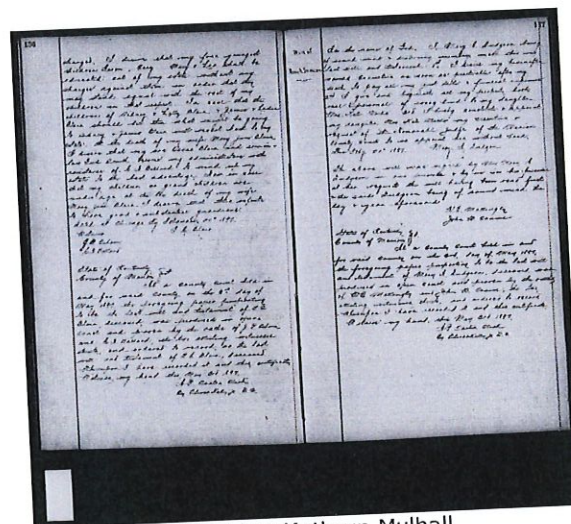
Smith & Blair Co.  
"Thomas C. Blair, also a native of Marion County, Kentucky, was for about fifteen years identified with the business interests of Chicago, as a general merchant and distiller, and well known and highly esteemed by his many friends here. He died April 14, 1907 [headstone states 1897], at the age of sixty-five years. His wife was before marriage Miss Mary Jane Peterson. She was born in Marion County, daughter of Harry and Annie Peterson, who passed their lives on a farm not far from Chicago and were among the highly respected residents of the community. Mrs. Blair is still living at Chicago.

"She and Mr. Blair were the parents of eleven children, of whom four are deceased. Those living are: Oscar, of Chicago, Kentucky; Ferdinand, of Loretto, Kentucky; Nicholas O. and Robert L., both of Chicago; [Mary] Nettie, wife of G. F. Smith of Coon Hollow, Kentucky; Cora, wife of Frank [Francis Henry] Smith, of St. Mary, Kentucky; and Mary Elizabeth, wife of G. C. Ballard [sic: Pius G. Ballard], of Athertonville, Kentucky.

"Nicholas O. Blair was educated in the district schools of his native county and at Gethsemane College, spending three years in the latter institution. On his return home from college he went into his father's store as clerk and was thus occupied for six years. After his father's death his mother purchased the distillery and Nicholas O. was employed to conduct the business, which he has since continued. The capacity of the Blair distillery is one hundred and eighteen bushels per day; the brand manufactured is Old Saxon. On May



Added by: Kathryn Mulhall



Added by: Kathryn Mulhall



6/26/2017

Thomas Christopher Blair (1833 - 1897) - Find A Grave Memorial

3, 1898, at Chicago, Mr. Blair married Miss Mary Ellen Norris, daughter of Raphael and Jane Ballard Norris, well-known residents of Chicago. Mr. Norris was for many years a county assessor, and also was interested in a distillery here. Mr. and Mrs. Blair have two children: Joseph Walter and Mary Allene, aged ten and six years respectively.

"While he has never been a politician in the sense of being an office-seeker, Mr. Blair has always taken and active interest in local affairs and has voted with the Democratic Party. He and his family are members of the Catholic Church."

---

From List of Lebanon Business, 1880: Smith, Blair & Co. - Wm H. and Raphael Smith, Christopher Blair; distillers and soloon.

Family links:

Spouse:

Mary Jane *Peterson* Blair (1843 - 1922)

Children:

Francis Ferdinand Blair (1874 - 1940)\*

Nick O. Blair (1876 - 1951)\*

Mary Nympha *Blair* Smith (1878 - 1963)\*

Aaron Blair (1881 - 1905)\*

Mary Elizabeth *Blair* Payne (1886 - 1944)\*

Robert L Blair (1888 - 1910)\*

\*Calculated relationship

Burial:

Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic Cemetery

Saint Francis

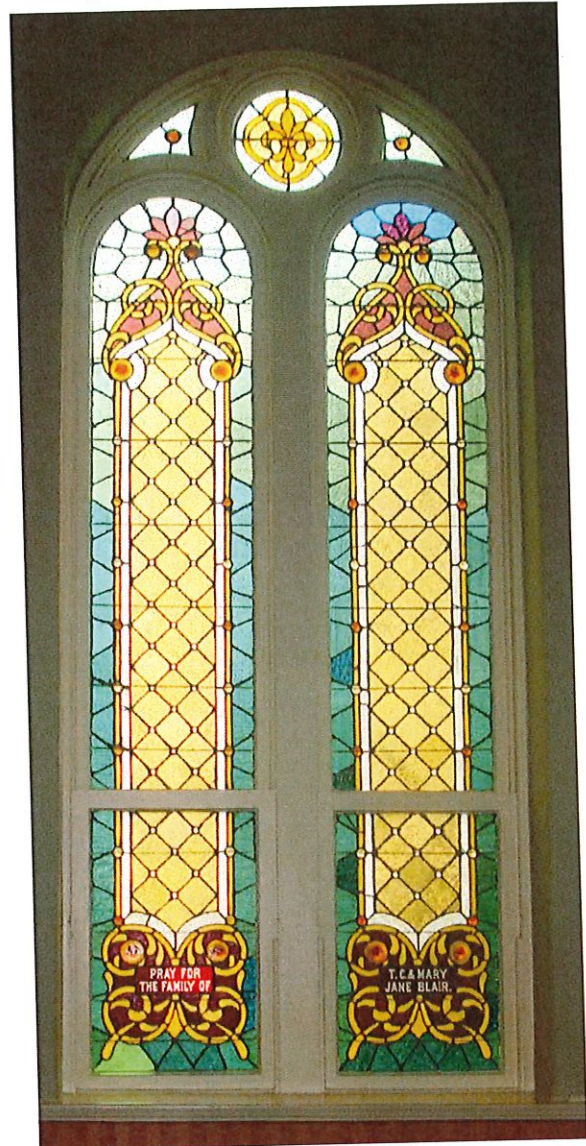
Marion County

Kentucky, USA

Created by: Marmat

Record added: Jun 12, 2011

Find A Grave Memorial# 71230526



Added by: Marmat

There are 2 more photos not showing...  
[Click here to view all images...](#)

Marion County  
Kentucky, USA

\*\*\*\*

#  
The Journal News : 12 October 1894 : Page 5 - N  
ewspapers.com  
[www.newspapers.com/newspage/4584595/](http://www.newspapers.com/newspage/4584595/)

\* Cached

The bondfid warehouse of Blair & Ballard, at Chic  
ago, in ihis comity, burned  
yestorday. The house contuiued over 1,000 burrol  
a of whisky, all uf which buried

#  
Logansport Pharos-Tribune : 13 October 1894 : Pa  
ge 20 ...  
[www.newspapers.com/newspage/3835810/](http://www.newspapers.com/newspage/3835810/)

\* Cached

Fire destroyed the bonded warehouse of Blair &  
Ballard near Lebanon, Ky. Over  
1.000 barrels of whisky were burned. Krupp," the  
great iron rounder ol .Essen ...

#  
The Oklahoma Times Journal. (Oklahoma City, Okl  
a. Terr.), Vol. 6 ...  
[gateway.okhistory.org/ark:/67531/metadc93423/m1/4/](http://gateway.okhistory.org/ark:/67531/metadc93423/m1/4/)

\* Cached

"'-The bonded Territory by Lina A. Jamep, the J  
warehouse of Blair & Ballard, at  
Chi- above named plaintiff, and that you '/"t-'0-in  
this county, burned yesterday, ...

#  
Maysville, Ky. : 1887 - Kentuckiana Digital Librar  
y Home  
[athena.uky.edu/.../evenews\\_KUK-eve1894101201\\_](http://athena.uky.edu/.../evenews_KUK-eve1894101201_sn87060190.html)  
[sn87060190.html](http://athena.uky.edu/.../evenews_KUK-eve1894101201_sn87060190.html)

\* C a c h e d

**The bonded warehouse of Blair & Ballard, at Chicago, in this county, burned yesterday. The house contained over 1,000 barrels of whisky, all of which burned.**

\*\*\*

Saint Francis is northwestern Marion county town at the intersection of KY 52 and KY 527 about one mile west of Loretto. It was settled in the early nineteenth century and a post office opened in 1834 as Chicago, named for the city in Illinois. The town was incorporated with that name in 1870. In 1938 the post office and town were renamed Saint Francis, after the local St. Francis of Assisi Church

&\*\*\*

Transcribed from the 1881-82 Kentucky State Gazetteer and Business Directory, Vol. III

Reynolds Historical Genealogy Collection

Allen County Public Library, 900 Webster Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46801

Published by R. L. Polk & Co. and A. C. Danser

### **Chicago**

**Is situated 12 miles west of Lebanon, the seat of Marion county and is a station on the L. & N. R.R., with a population of 150. A Catholic church and parochial school, with a steam saw-mill and distillery are here. Whiskey forms the chief export. Express Adams. Mail daily. C. N. Ballard, postmaster.**

Business District

Alvey J. A., justice of peace

Ballard C. N., express agent



**Blair, Osborn & Ballard, distillers**

Bullock Wm., blacksmith

Cissell Mrs. M. E., hotel

Dart J. W., distiller.

\*\*\*\*\*

pre-pro.com home

**BLAIR, OSBORN & BALLARD**

**Kansas City, MO.**

1885

explain this range (opens a new window)

Business name timeline:

Blair, Osborn & Ballard

Address timeline:

1304 W 9th

Business category timeline (abbreviations decoded below):

W

The following are notes from whiskey blogger Jack Sullivan on Mary Jane Peterson Blair and her distillery, which were emailed to me from the same.  
– Alex Blair, June 26, 2017

distillery search | pre-pro.com home

The Old Saxon Distillery  
RD #11, 5 th District  
Marion County, KY

In 1898, the distillery was operating as Blair, Osburn and Ballard Dist. Co. and also the Old Saxon Distilling Co. The distillery was later sold to Thixton, Millett & Co., who by now had acquired the Old Boone distillery and brand name. They created a modern facility with a grain elevator, bottling house and cooperage shop where production of "Old Boone" continued until Prohibition.

Note that David Sachs and Sons of Louisville, KY. claimed to be sole controllers of this distillery. They were also selling whiskey under the "Old Saxon" brand.

Review bonded warehouse transactions for this distillery

Internal Revenue recorded warehouse transactions for The Old Saxon Distillery as follows:

( explain: origin of these records, letter codes )

- \* 1898: Blair, Osburn and Ballard Dist. Co. -- D, W
- \* 1901: Mary Jane Blair -- D, T, W
- \* 1903: Mary J Blair -- D, T, W
- \* 1904: Mary J Blair -- D, T, W
- \* 1914: Mary J Blair as Old Saxon Distillery Co. -- no details given
- \* 1914: Thixton, Millett Co. -- no details given
- \* 1920: Thixton, Millett Co. -- no details given

Google  
Enter your search terms  
Web [www.pre-pro.com](http://www.pre-pro.com)  
Submit search form

Warehouse records for RD#11, Tax District #5 (KY)

1898: A transaction was recorded for a warehouse located in or near Chicago,  
Marion County, KY  
The transaction was carried out by Blair, Osburn and Ballard Dist. Co.,  
transaction code: "D, W". (explain codes)

1901: A transaction was recorded for a warehouse located in or near Chicago,  
Marion County, KY  
The transaction was carried out by Mary Jane Blair, transaction code: "D, T, W".  
(explain codes)

1903: A transaction was recorded for a warehouse located in or near Chicago,  
Marion County, KY  
The transaction was carried out by Mary J Blair, transaction code: "D, T, W".  
(explain codes)

1904: A transaction was recorded for a warehouse located in or near Chicago,  
Marion County, KY  
The transaction was carried out by Mary J Blair, transaction code: "D, T, W".  
(explain codes)

1914: A transaction was recorded for a warehouse located in or near Chicago,  
KY  
The transaction was carried out by Mary J Blair as Old Saxon Distillery Co..

1914: A transaction was recorded for a warehouse located in or near Chicago,  
KY  
The transaction was carried out by Thixton, Millett Co..

1920: A transaction was recorded for a warehouse located in or near Chicago,  
KY  
The transaction was carried out by Thixton, Millett Co..  
\*\*\*\*

### **Mary Jane Peterson Blair**

Learn about removing the ads from this memorial...  
Birth: Dec. 29, 1844  
Marion County  
Kentucky, USA  
Death: Aug. 7, 1922  
Loretto

Marion County  
Kentucky, USA

From: KENTUCKY AND KENTUCKIANS: Smith & Blair Co.

"Thomas C. Blair, also a native of Marion County, Kentucky, was for about fifteen years identified with the business interests of Chicago, as a general merchant and distiller, and well known and highly esteemed by his many friends here. He died April 14, 1907, at the age of sixty-five years. His wife was before marriage Miss Mary Jane Peterson. She was born in Marion County, daughter of Harry and Annie Peterson, who passed their lives on a farm not far from Chicago and were among the highly respected residents of the community. Mrs. Blair is still living at Chicago. She and Mr. Blair were the parents of eleven children..."

Family links:

Spouse:

Thomas Christopher Blair (1833 - 1897)\*

Children:

Mary Nympha Blair Smith (1878 - 1963)\*

\*Calculated relationship

Burial:

Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic Cemetery

Saint Francis

Marion County

Kentucky, USA

\*\*

\*\*

Nick O. Blair

\* Memorial

\* Photos

\* Flowers

\* Edit

\* Share

Learn about removing the ads from this memorial...

Birth: 1876

Death: 1951

Burial:

Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic Cemetery

Saint Francis



charge of St. Catherine's Church in New Haven. The celebrated and beautiful Trappist Monastery of Gethsemane is within the bounds of Father Hogarty's parish. He has vitalized all departments of his parish work, including the establishing of a total abstinence society, and in his devoted and consecrated labors, he has the earnest and loving cooperation of the members of his flock.

### *Gardiner*

William G. Gardiner is incumbent of the responsible position of superintendent of the R. Cummins Distillery, at Loretto, Marion County, Kentucky, and is a representative of one of the honored pioneer families of this state. He was born in Fairfield, Nelson County, on May 22, 1861, and is a son of Col. Joseph E. Gardiner, who was born in the same county and whose active career was one of close identification with the great basic industry of agriculture. He continued to reside in Nelson County until his death, which occurred in the year 1898. His wife, whose maiden name was Martha Buckman, was born in Union County, and she died in Nelson County in 1892, at the age of 60 years. Of their children, all of whom are living (1912), C. R. is a resident of the city of Louisville; F. B. is proprietor of the Kentucky Nursery Company, in the same city; Professor Joseph E. was formerly president of Cecilian College in Hardin County; Dr. H. T. is a representative dentist in Louisville; Ida is the wife of Wingate Wathen, of Morganfield, Union County; Nettie is the wife of Robert Jenkins, of Uniontown, this state; and Miss Ira resides with her sister, Mrs. Jenkins.

William G. Gardiner is indebted to the public schools of his native county for his early education training and soon after leaving school he engaged in the harvesting machinery business, in which connection he finally became state manager for the Champion Harvester Company in Kentucky. After the amalgamation of the leading concerns engaged in this line of industry in the United States, Mr. Gardiner

continued with the International Harvester Company of America for three years. For six years he was in the government service as a deputy collector of internal revenue for Kentucky and in 1905 he assumed his present position as superintendent of the R. Cummins Distillery at Loretto, Marion County, Kentucky. He is now a stockholder in the company, of which he is secretary and treasurer, a member of the directorate and general manager of the well-equipped plant. He has proved a most progressive and discriminating executive, and under his administration the affairs of the company have been signally prosperous. In politics Mr. Gardiner is a staunch Democrat, and he has always shown a loyal interest in public affairs of a local order, giving his support to such measures as tend to advance the best interests of the community. Both he and his wife are active communicants of the Catholic church at Loretto and are prominent in connection with the best social activities of the community.

On February 12, 1904, in the city of Louisville, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Gardiner to Miss Elizabeth Cummins, a daughter of Richard Cummins, founder of the distilling business at Loretto, which is still conducted under his name. Mr. and Mrs. Gardiner have two children, Emily and Martha.

### *Blair*

Nicholas O. Blair, of Chicago, Marion County, Kentucky, is a native of the town in which he lives, born here on August 28, 1867, son of Thomas C. Blair, whom he has succeeded in the distilling business.

Thomas C. Blair, also a native of Marion County, Kentucky, was for about 15 years identified with the business interests of Chicago, as a general merchant and distiller, and well-known and highly esteemed by his many friends here. He died April 14, 1907, at the age of 65 years. His wife was before marriage Miss Mary Jane Peterson. She was born in Marion County, daughter of Harry and Annie Peterson, who passed their lives

on a farm not far from Chicago and were among the highly-respected residents of the community. Mrs. Blair is still living at Chicago. She and Mr. Blair were the parents of 11 children, of whom four are deceased. Those living are Oscar, of Chicago, Kentucky; Ferdinand, of Loretto, Kentucky; Nicholas O. and Robert L., both of Chicago; Nettie, wife of G. F. Smith of Coon Hollow, Kentucky; Cora, wife of Frank Smith, of St. Mary, Kentucky; and Mary Elizabeth, wife of G. C. Ballard, of Athertonville, Kentucky.

Nicholas O. Blair was educated in the district schools of his native county and at Gethsemane College, spending three years in the latter institution. On his return home from college he went into his father's store as a clerk, and was thus occupied for six years. After his father's death his mother purchased the distillery and Nicholas O. was employed to conduct the business, which he has since continued. The capacity of the Blair distillery is 118 bushels per day; the brand manufactured is Old Saxon. On May 3, 1898, at Chicago, Mr. Blair married Miss Mary Ellen Norris, daughter of Raphael and Jane (Ballard) Norris, well-known residents of Chicago. Mr. Norris was for many years a county assessor and also was interested in a distillery here. Mr. and Mrs. Blair have two children: Joseph Walter and Mary Allene, aged 10 and six years, respectively.

While he has never been a politician in the sense of being an office-seeker, Mr. Blair has always taken an active interest in local affairs and has voted with the Democratic Party. He and his family are members of the Catholic church.

**The Kentucky  
Explorer, P. O. Box  
227, Jackson, KY  
41339; 606/666-5060;  
kyexp1@gmail.com;  
kyexp2@gmail.com**

Research Data

Blair Families  
of

Marion Co. Ky  
and

St. Mary's Co. Maryland

researched by

Marianne LeButt

**Note to researchers:**

The following was authored by me for distribution at the James Joseph Blair Family Reunion in Bardstown, Kentucky in June of 2017. This is meant as a personal family history and not an authoritative genealogical document. As such, it is not annotated. However, most of what is set forth herein can be corroborated by cemetery records, census documents, the Blair Family File of the Marion County Public Library in Kentucky (the "Blair File"), or other documents in my possession. In sum, what follows should be fact-checked where possible. I have noticed some inconsistencies in the Blair File with what is set forth below, and would defer to the Blair File, which was not in my possession at the time I wrote this. Should any subsequent researchers encounter any outright errors, I apologize. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any concerns, or if you have any information to share

– Alex Blair, Chicago, Illinois, June 26, 2017, [apblair@gmail.com](mailto:apblair@gmail.com).

**Blair Family History**

In 1688 Protestant members of Parliament overthrew their Catholic King of England and Scotland.

King James II had attempted to lift the long-standing official discrimination of the Catholic faith by royal decree. Even worse, his wife had given birth to a son, James Edward Stuart. This meant that England faced the prospect of a Catholic royal family, which was unacceptable to powerful anti-Catholic forces in England.

The King spent his final years in exile in France. His son, James Stuart, called "The Old Pretender" was determined to reclaim the throne of majority Catholic Scotland for the Stuart family. In 1715, forces loyal to the Stuarts started the first of two rebellions that would rage across Scotland for much of the century, called the Jacobite Rebellions. The majority Catholic Highland clans rallied to the standard of the House of Stuart. The first rebellion ended with a whimper, when the Jacobite commander surrendered at the Battle of Preston. The commander did this without informing the Highlanders, who were furious and wanted to fight to the death. Nevertheless, many of the Highlanders were rounded up and deported to the American Colonies.

On March 30, 1716, 95 Highland prisoners from the Battle of Preston boarded the prisoner ship *Scipio* at Liverpool, bound for Virginia. The prisoners were to be sold for a period of forced labor in the Colonies: Indentured servitude.

James Blair, sometimes written as Blare, was one of the prisoners. 300 years later, here we are.

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I wish I could tell you that James Blair was our ancestor, and I'm not just guessing. But the truth is, guesswork is the best we can do to determine where the Blair clan that showed up in 1790s Kentucky came from. If you're reading this, odds are you are a descendant of that pioneer family of mysterious origin. Over the last seven years, off and on, I have searched Colonial tax and census records, ancient cemetery lists, Revolutionary War pension rolls, Scottish lawsuits from the 1700s, and ship manifests, looking for *where we came from*. I haven't found a smoking gun to give you a good answer, but I learned a lot about who we are and who we were. That doesn't mean the answer isn't out there, but Colonial era records are notoriously sparse. Simply put, our family may have been in this country for too long for us to ever figure it out.

So before I continue, here's why I think my guess is a good one: First, "Blair" is a common name, but we know that *our* Blairs have always been Catholic. Second, we know that our Blairs emigrated to Marion County, Kentucky from St. Mary's County, Maryland.

In 17th Century America, Catholics were a persecuted minority. Many Americans, including some of our Founding Fathers, were suspicious of Catholics. Catholic rituals were thought strange and macabre. Many people thought that Catholics could never truly be English or American, that Catholics would always be loyal to the pope first. Many viewed Catholics as foreign agents. The Gunpowder Plot of 1605, in which a group of Catholics allegedly attempted to blow up Parliament, was not too far in the distant past. Nor were the violent Catholic versus Protestant power struggles in England, which had cost many lives on both sides.

Maryland was one of the few colonies not openly hostile to Catholics. St. Mary's County, Maryland was considered the cradle of the Catholic Church in America, and many Catholics flocked there so they could openly practice their faith. In Maryland, being descended from prisoners sent from England was nothing new. England had been sending Scots and other "undesirables" to America for years. In July of 1650, Rev. John Cotton wrote from Boston to Oliver Cromwell that 150 Scottish prisoners of war from the Battle of Dunbar had arrived there "and been sold, not for slaves to perpetual servitude, but for six or seven or eight years."

Ships from England would sell prisoners to a term of service, use the money to buy tobacco, stop in the Caribbean to trade some of that tobacco for sugar, and hitch the trade winds back to England for a handsome profit. Some historians reported that Maryland received more British prisoners than any other colony, perhaps over 20,000, half of which arrived after 1750.

The practice was so common that many in England came to think of America as they later would come to think of Australia. After unrest in America over taxation without representation, famous English writer Samuel Johnson complained to a friend, "Sir, They are a race of convicts and ought to be content with anything we may allow them short of a hanging."

It's not too much of a stretch to think that James Blair finished his term of servitude and made his way to St. Mary's County, Maryland. Two other prisoner ships from the Battle of Preston, the *Goodspeed* and the ironically-named *Friendship*, sold their prisoners in Annapolis.

Therefore, we can conclude that James, whoever he was, likely had friends or relatives in Maryland. And it's entirely plausible that he settled in St. Mary's County, where he had people who worshipped the same faith that he had given up his freedom fighting for.

It could have happened just like that, or maybe nothing like that at all. But enough guesswork, what follows is what we know.

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In the late 1790s, several Catholic families in St. Mary's County, Maryland made a pact with each other to emigrate to Kentucky, at time the edge of the frontier. They would band together for mutual defense against the Native American population, and hopefully, build a community to replace one whose fortunes had greatly declined: During the Revolutionary War, British warships prowled the waters and tributaries of Chesapeake Bay. They seized farms, supplies, and occasionally destroyed homes. Many local men fought in the Continental Army, or served in local militias to defend the home front against the marauding British. One of them was Matthew Blair, a resident of adjacent Charles County, who served under Capt. Benjamin Corry. Also serving in the militia were individuals whose family names are familiar to us today, "Zach Dent" and "Elisha Ferrell." Information about this Revolutionary War veteran Blair is scant, and it's impossible to know where, or even if, he fits into our family tree.

After the war, the loss of trade with Great Britain made economic recovery from the Revolution difficult, and good farmland was becoming scarce in Maryland. Escaping religious persecution was also a factor. Although Maryland was the most welcoming of the thirteen original colonies to Catholics, British penal laws had made it illegal for Catholics to vote, hold public office, or practice law. This situation improved after America gained its independence in 1776, but Catholics were still a minority. Marylander Rev. John Carroll, SJ became the first bishop of the brand-new Apostolic Prefecture of the United States in 1789. Bishop Carroll's family had been prominent in the cause for independence. His cousin, Charles, was the only Catholic signer of the Declaration of Independence and the first US Senator from Maryland. Bishop Carroll later founded Georgetown University in Washington, DC. The new bishop promised the would-be emigrants that he would provide a priest for them in Kentucky so they could worship freely.

The "League of Catholic Families," as they called themselves, numbered about 60 families. The first group left Maryland in 1785, and was led by Basil Hayden, a prominent farmer and distiller. Hayden founded one of the first distilleries in Kentucky, and later his grandson would start a distillery and name his bourbon "Old Grand Dad" after his pioneer grandfather. "Basil Hayden" is also the name of a brand of small-batch bourbon made today by Jim Beam. A second group of families followed in 1786, and a third in 1787. The brand-new Kentuckians settled in the area around present-day Bardstown extending south to Pottinger's Creek.

In these three groups, or shortly following them, were two brothers: Ignatius Blair, who some called "Titus," and Peter Blair. Titus was the older of the two, having been born about 1760. He would have been a teenager when America declared its independence from Britain, but if he fought in the Revolution like many of his fellow emigrants, no evidence has been found. Peter

was younger, having been born in 1767. By the time Peter came to Kentucky, he had a wife, Sarah, and three children: Wilford, Sarah, and Elizabeth, who went by the name "Betsy." By comparison, we know almost nothing about Ignatius Blair, except that his wife was named "Mary," and they had at least one son that we know about, Charles Blair, who was born around 1782, shortly before the United States gained independence with the Treaty of Paris.

This means that Charles would have been a toddler when his family began the arduous journey from the only home they'd ever known in Maryland to an entirely uncertain future on the frontier in Kentucky. This would have meant walking to Pittsburgh and taking a flatboat down the Ohio river to Kentucky. The dangers were many. People drowned in the river when the crude flatboats broke apart, or got sick and died. Native Americans were a threat. Once the settlers arrived in Kentucky and walked overland, the women and children would have stayed in heavily-guarded forts, called "stations," while the men worked together to clear fields and plant crops.

The Catholic Church would have been a key part of communal and social life in Kentucky for Charles, Betsy, and their fellow settlers. Bishop Carroll made good on his promise, and sent the community a priest in 1787. Masses would have been held in homes, as there was no established parish. Priests assigned to the Kentucky "mission" would spend their days on horseback, riding from Catholic settlement to Catholic settlement, across Kentucky and several neighboring states dispensing sacraments along the way. In those years, the Diocese of Bardstown included Kentucky, Tennessee, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Michigan. You were lucky to be able to attend mass or give confession, and it might be months until you got to do it again. Finally, a log chapel church was built less than a mile west of Pottinger's Creek, and they called it Holy Cross. It was the first Catholic Church built west of the Allegheny Mountains. One of the roving priests who served the community was Fr. Stephen Badin, the first priest ordained in America. Fr. Badin traveled all over the Upper South and Midwest, ministering to far-flung and isolated Catholic communities. He also acquired a reputation for playing fast and loose with the rules about priests owning property. Eventually he ended up giving away most of his real estate, including a gift of a farm on the St. Joseph River in Indiana, to an intense priest from France named Fr. Edward Sorin. Father Sorin had a crazy idea to start a college on the frontier in 1842. That college became the University of Notre Dame, and Fr. Badin, who the Blairs likely knew by sight, is now interred on its campus.

One of the things we do know about Peter and Titus' children Betsy and Charles is that they were married on November 3, 1831. They were first cousins and he was 19 years her senior. It was likely a marriage of convenience, as both had been widowed. It is unknown if Betsy or Charles had children from their first marriages, but they likely did, and it would have made sense to raise them together. Betsy's first marriage was to Henry Alvey, who was her brother-in-law. Her sister Sarah, called "Sallie," had married Jesse Alvey. No doubt the two sisters looked forward to marrying into the same family, but it was not to be. Betsy's second marriage, to Charles, lasted 17 years until his death in April of 1847. The 1850 Census lists Elizabeth Blair living alone with two boys named Charles Blair, age 24, and John Blair, age 22. Both boys were probably the late Charles' sons from his first marriage. Both their occupations are listed as "farmer." Elizabeth was also living with a teenage girl named Sarah Blair, likely her daughter by



Charles, named after her beloved sister, and a 13-year-old boy named James Blair, who was likely her son. Charles and Elizabeth had at least one other son, Thomas C. Blair, who was born in 1833. While the first few decades of Kentucky life for the Blairs were marked by hardscrabble farming, Thomas build a small fortune and prosper in the industry that would one day make this small corner of Kentucky world-famous: bourbon.

Thomas decided to seek his fortune away from the farm in the small hamlet of Chicago, now known as St. Francis, Kentucky. He may have served in the Civil War on the Union Side, joining up with the Kentucky Light Artillery to defend his home state against Confederate sorties. There is a record of a Thomas Blair serving with that unit, and he would have been of appropriate age, but it can't be determined for sure. If Thomas C. Blair is the same Thomas Blair as recorded, he would have defended Lebanon against attack on Brig. Gen. John Hunt Morgan's famous raid into Kentucky and fought Morgan again at the Battle of Cynthiana. What Thomas or his family thought of the war can only be guessed at. His mother Betsy owned a 17-year-old female slave at the outbreak of the war, per the 1860 slave census. His maternal grandfather, Peter, may have owned more.

Whatever the story of his war years, Thomas soon proved himself a very capable merchant. Chicago had a stop on the L&N Railroad, a steam sawmill, the handsome brick St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church and several distilleries. In 1879, Thomas and a partner bought one of the distilleries and founded Blair Distilling Company. The firm was successful enough to weather a disastrous fire in 1894 that destroyed 1,000 barrels of whiskey. The distillery was quickly rebuilt. Thomas married Mary Jane Peterson, and they had 11 children. Mary Jane was formidable in her own right. When Thomas eventually passed away, she would inherit his shares and Blair Distillery would become one of the first female distillery owners.

Thomas and Mary Jane had 11 children, and were no doubt prominent citizens in Chicago. The family dedicated a stained glass window in St. Francis of Assisi, which is still there today. The dedication states, "Pray for the Family of T.C. & Mary Jane Blair."

Soon, the family would need those prayers.

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Thomas was a lifelong Democrat, and probably in a fit of patriotism named his third son James Monroe Blair, after the Founding Father and Democratic president. James followed in his father's footsteps and became a merchant. In October of 1893, at age 22, James married Elizabeth Ferriell. Everyone called her "Lyda." Rather than get married in the local church, the couple went to Louisville to get married in the beautiful Cathedral of the Assumption. This was a sure sign of a good match of two longtime local clans.

Lyda's family was one of the original families to come from Maryland, and her ancestors may have fought in the American Revolution. Her father, John C. Ferriell seems to have been a successful farmer. She never knew her mother, Elizabeth Green, who died just a few weeks

after Lyda was born, perhaps from complications from childbirth. Lyda's marriage to James immediately produced one son, James Arthur Blair. Just a few years later, she was pregnant again. It's tempting to imagine the young couple, with a healthy baby boy and another child along the way, happy and secure in their prospects.

By this point, the communities founded by the first settlers were 100 years old. These first homesteads had mostly been long abandoned for more respectable farmhouses, but the wells and cesspits used daily by the growing communities were showing their age. Lacking modern plumbing and sanitation, the residents of Chicago, Kentucky had no way of knowing their drinking water was contaminated until it was too late.

The first signs of typhoid fever are relatively benign: a slight fever, fatigue, and headache. After a week, the victim breaks out in rashes, and the fever rises. Many patients are delirious and confused. Abdominal pain and frequent diarrhea are common. If left untreated, after the third week the fever will subside in approximately 70 to 90 percent of cases. However, if the fever fails to subside, a number of fatal complications can occur. The intestine can rupture, leading to deadly infection. The victim is especially vulnerable to pneumonia or respiratory infection. Some contract a swelling of the brain, leaving them unable to recognize family members, or remember how to tie their shoes. It would have been terrible to see a successful young husband and father deteriorate in this matter, but that's what Lyda endured in the ninth month of her pregnancy in 1896. James Monroe Blair was buried the morning of December 19, 1896. It was Saturday, less than a week before Christmas. That night, Lyda gave birth to their second son, James Joseph Blair.

It wasn't the first, or the last, tragedy to befall the extended Blair clan. Sidney, James's older brother, had died of typhoid in 1895. William Blair, who may have been another brother (he is not mentioned in Thomas C.'s will) also died in 1896. Ferdinand Blair, called "Nan," who was James' younger brother, and a county sheriff, almost died of typhoid that same year, but survived. Typhoid claimed the life of the family patriarch, Thomas C., in April of 1897, as well as another son, Aaron, in 1905. Mary Jane buried a fifth son, Robert, in 1910, when he was only 21. In the span of 15 years, the Blairs had lost six adult men. Only Nan, and Nicholas, who would take over the distillery for Mary Jane and run it until the Great Depression, survived to old age. It's a mystery why typhoid killed so many Blair men as opposed to the women in the family. Perhaps the men would travel to nearby cities of Louisville, Cincinnati or Nashville on business, where they were more susceptible to contaminated water.

After James's death, Lyda moved back in with her elderly father, John Ferriell. Lyda had been the youngest of 11 children, and her father was in his 70s by this time. She likely would have had to care for him as well as her infant son, James Joseph, and her toddler, James Arthur. Her troubles were not over. James Arthur passed away when he was only 6 years old. Widowed, and having lost an infant son, and with an elderly father now pushing 80 to care for, Lyda turned to dressmaking to earn an income for her small family. Then in 1904, just shy of his 82nd birthday, John Ferriell passed away. In the span of eight years, Lyda had buried her husband, firstborn son, and now, her father.

By 1910, she was living on Mulberry Street in Lebanon, Kentucky, with James, earning money as a seamstress. They likely lived in a boarding house. She was a long way from her wedding to a young merchant of a well-to-do family in the cathedral in Louisville.

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It's tempting to look back on 250 years of history and focus on the big, dramatic moments. We know the Blair family was here in this country for revolutions, civil war, and the opening and closing of the frontier. But consider the widow on Mulberry Street. She was 38 with a teenage son to look after. To that point, her life had been marked by crushing blows and unknowable grief. What fears or disappointments did she have to herself when the long day was over? She had endured enough to break almost anyone. It would have been almost understandable to be swallowed in a tide of depression and leave her young son James adrift.

But that's not what happened. In 1911, she moved with James, who his friends called "Jimmy," to New Hope. The move was likely to better Jimmy's prospects of an education. Lyda had remained close to an older sister, Nancy. Like Lyda, Nancy had married into a distilling family. Her husband was Joseph Bernard Dant. The Dant family had started in the business in 1830s when Joseph's father, J.W. Dant founded his first distillery. The Dants were wealthy, and Nancy and Joseph lived in Louisville. It was the life Lyda might have had, had her husband lived. Joseph and Nancy paid for their nephew Jimmy to attend the Gethsemani secondary school run by Trappist monks at the monastery near New Hope, and later paid for him to attend St. Xavier High School in Louisville. Nancy died in 1934, and Joseph followed in 1939, but the Dant family continued to send Lyda \$100 every Christmas for the rest of her life. Jimmy would later give one of his sons the middle name "Bernard," likely as tribute to the man and the family who did so much for him and his mother.

After moving to New Hope, Lyda married a widower named Richard Bennett. Nothing much about their life as a couple is known, but Jimmy became acquainted with the neighbor girl who lived in the house behind them, Katharine Bowling. Jimmy and Katharine married in November of 1920, and Lyda moved in with them when Richard died in 1927, living with her son, daughter-in-law and grandchildren until she passed away in 1955. Her surviving grandchildren don't remember a stern, taciturn woman hardened by a life of grief. Rather, she lavished her grandchildren with love. Although she lived with her son's family, she let her daughter-in-law run the household. But she was always willing to pitch in where needed, whether that was canning, dressing chickens, or other chores around the house. Her abiding hobby, perhaps left from the years when it was her livelihood, was sewing. She would buy patterns and interesting bolts of cloth from traveling salesmen and spend hours in the private room Jimmy built for her, painstakingly cutting them into postage-stamp sized squares and other intricate patterns. Several of her quilts survive today as treasured family heirlooms, and they indicate an artist with incredible dedication and will to see a task to completion.

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Compiling a family history can be a frustrating thing. There are people who came before you, who are now nothing more than a name on a page, maybe a date of birth, maybe a date of death. Often, there's less. So many of the people that made us who we are today passed beyond living memory long ago. Several of us have spent the last several years trying to piece this story together as best we can, but in the background there is an unfulfilled longing to know, *what were these people like?*

The answer can be found in the family that endures and grows with each passing year. Well over 200 people can now claim they were present in some way in that lonely seamstress's apartment on Mulberry Street. Many of us now reading this never knew Lyda or Jimmy Blair. We were born after he passed away in 1980. But we know his children and grandchildren. We don't need to be told that Jimmy Blair had a great sense of humor and loved to laugh, because we all do. He likely got that from Lyda, that single mother who raised him well in spite of all her heartbreak. She probably kept on laughing through it. We don't need to be told that Lyda was sustained by the Catholic faith that brought her ancestors west, because she raised a religious son who in turn raised faithful sons and daughters.

We are who we are because of the people that passed before us.

# Those Pre-Pro Whiskey Men!

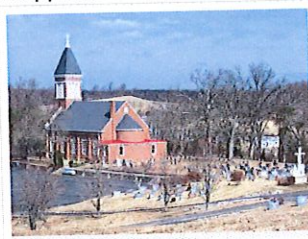
Monday, June 2, 2014

## Mary Jane Blair and Her Kentucky Distillery



When promoters put together an illustrated history of the Kentucky's distilling interests for the Chicago World's Fair of 1893, they had this to say about one country where distilling was common: *"There is no portion of Kentucky more beautiful or more suited to manufacture fine Kentucky whiskey than Marion County. A rolling country, beautifully drained, with many clear streams of water. beautiful forests, fine horses and cattle, and magnificent men and women."* Of the last mentioned, one woman stands out: Mary Jane Blair.

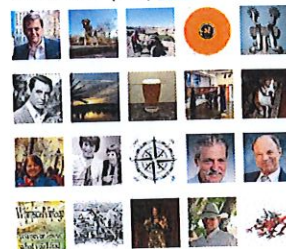
From 1907 to 1919, in an industry almost entirely dominated by men, the Mary Jane Blair Distillery Company was a major whiskey-making facility in Marion County. Mrs. Blair was born there in 1844 near a hamlet that was known at the time as "Chicago." That locality bore little resemblance to the Illinois metropolis after which it had been named. Situated 12 miles west of Lebanon, the county seat, it was settled in the early 19th Century and soon after a post office opened. With a population of about 150 Chicago's greatest asset was being a station on the Louisville & Nashville (L & N) Railroad. It also boasted a steam sawmill and, more important, distilleries. The "skyline" of Chicago was dominated by a Catholic church, St. Francis of Assisi; a parochial school and cemetery.



Mary Jane was raised on a farm near Chicago and lived in the area throughout her life. Her parents were Harry and Annie Peterson, described as "among the highly respected residents of the community." Given the predominance of distilling in the vicinity, it is likely that early on she was made aware of the workings of the trade. That familiarity obviously intensified when she met and married Thomas C. Blair. He was a native of Marion County and a local distiller who was born in 1833 and was 11 years her senior. Mary Jane and Thomas would have eleven children, of whom seven would live to maturity.

Shown below, the Blair distillery was originally built and operated by J.R. and J. P. Smith sometime around the mid-1800s. The initial plant produced about 100 to 200 barrels of whiskey a year. Distribution was handled by the

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  - August (7)
  - July (6)
  - ▼ June (8)

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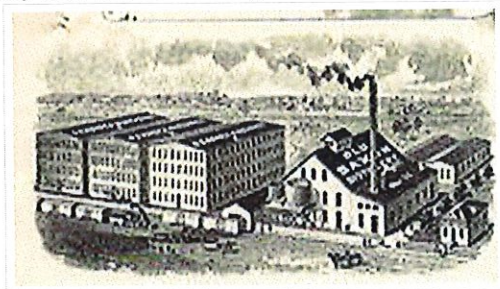
The Holihan Clan Could  
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Joseph Friedman: A  
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Mary Jane Blair and Her  
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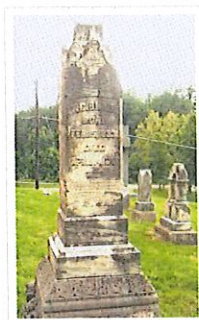


Temple & Washburn Company of Louisville under the brand name of "Smith & Smith." In 1855 the distillery was purchased by John Procter Gant. With distiller Theodore Gant, he operated the facility until 1879. At that point Thomas Blair, a local merchant, became involved in running the distillery. He partnered with a local named Ballard, probably W. T. Ballard, a local with a reputation as a skilled distiller. The Ballard family was a well established one in Marion County. One Ballard was the postmaster and railroad express agent in Chicago. Another Ballard was married to one of Mary Jane and Tom's daughters.



Under Blair and Ballard's management the firm prospered and expanded, despite a fire in 1894 in which more than 1,000 barrels of whiskey were destroyed, earning headlines coast to coast. The distillery quickly was rebuilt and resumed making whiskey. Proximity to a railhead was crucial to company success because its products could be sent in all directions to customers via the railroad. A 1900s publication listed whiskey as the "chief export" of the Chicago of Kentucky.

Subsequently a third partner was added and the name became Blair, Osborn & Ballard. Under the Bottled in Bonding Act, the plant became known as Registered Distillery #11 in Tax District #5 of Kentucky. The partners also opened a outlet in Kansas City, Missouri, at 1304 West Ninth Street. That venture was short-lived, listed only a single year, 1885, in local directories. The Louisville whiskey brokerage firm of David Sachs acquired a financial interest in the distillery and claimed ownership in its ads. (*See my post on Sachs, October 2011.*) More likely, through a contractual relationship with the proprietors, Sachs for a time was buying up the entire output of the facility.



The picture changed radically in 1907 when Thomas at age 65 died. Shown here is his gravestone in the cemetery of St. Francis Church. There followed a revamping of the management structure of the firm. According to the "History of Kentucky and Kentuckians" (1912), Mary Jane Blair inherited her husband's share of the distillery and bought out his partners. The name was changed to the "Mary Jane Blair Distillery." Although the greater part of her life had been spent in the Blair home as housewife and mother, evidence is that she took an active role as president of the company, which distilled about five months in the year. Limited production was not unusual in the Kentucky whiskey industry, some distillers believing that fermentation was done best only in certain months. As the distiller Mrs. Blair hired W. P. Norris, another well known Marion County whiskey man.

The day to day management of her distillery was left to her son, Nicolas. Born in 1867, from an early age he had shown a particular flair for the business. Nicolas was educated in the local schools of Marion County and then was sent to the nearby Gethsemene College for three years. Upon his

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- ▶ [April](#) (8)
- ▶ [March](#) (8)
- ▶ [February](#) (8)
- ▶ [January](#) (8)

- ▶ [2013](#) (85)
- ▶ [2012](#) (76)
- ▶ [2011](#) (53)

#### About Me

##### Jack Sullivan

Over a period of almost two decades, I have written more than 325 articles for collector magazines and newsletters in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, and Australia. The subjects generally are those signaled by the title of this site. Although many of my articles can be found on several websites whose links are referenced here, and I will be continuing to write "in hard copy," this blog will provide an outlet for research results that are too short or of such narrowly-focused interest as to preclude their publication elsewhere. Through the magic of the Internet -- and judicious use of key words -- I am hopeful that collectors, genealogy buffs, and those interested in arcane tidbits of history will find their way to this site and receive information not readily available elsewhere.

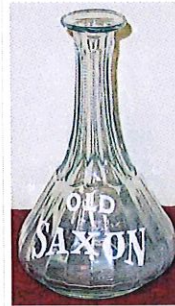
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return he had worked with his father at the general merchandise and distilling trades. In 1898 he married Mary Ellen Norris of Chicago, whose mother was a Ballard. The couple had two children. Nicolas was considered a leading citizen of Marion County and was said to take an active interest in local affairs and Democratic politics, although not as an office-seeker.

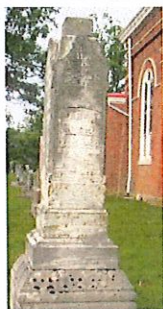


Nicholas Blair expanded the capacity of the distillery that now bore his mother's name. By 1912 the plant had the mashing capacity of 118 bushels per day and four warehouses able to hold a total of 9,000 barrels. The Blairs were producing whiskey sold under several labels, some their own brands, some merchandised by others.



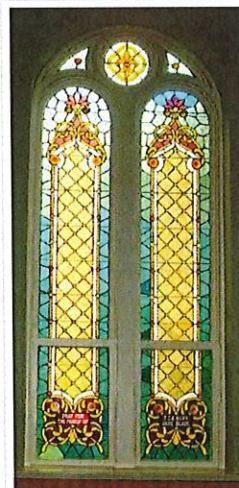
Chief among them was "Old Saxon," Mary Jane Blair's product, but apparently sold through the Sachs outfit. Shown here are a shot glass and a back of the bar bottle, for Saxon and Old Saxon.

At this point the ownership of the distillery gets murky. Mary Jane Blair continued to be the name under which the distillery was known until 1919 and the onset of National Prohibition. Federal records show her making transactions at her bonded warehouses up until 1914, under her own name and sometimes as Old Saxon Distillery Company. About the same year, according to some sources, the distillery was purchased by Thixton-Millett & Company of Jefferson County, Kentucky. (See my post of February 2014.) They operated it until Prohibition and then it closed.



Mary Jane Blair never saw Repeal. In 1922 at the age of 76, she died and was buried in St. Francis Cemetery near her husband as her children and grandchildren grieved at her grave site. Her marker is shown here. The Blair family subsequently sponsored a window in St. Francis Church to pay tribute to their parents. Shown here, the dedication at the bottom reads: "Pray for the Family of T. C. and Mary Jane Blair."

It appears, however, that the Blair progeny were not finished with the distillery their parents had fostered. With Repeal, Nicolas, now in his mid-fifties, organized a new corporation called The Blair Distilling Company and bought out Thixton-Millett and its brand names. He also featured a number of labels of his own, including "Colonel Blair," "Nick Blair," "Marion County," "Blair's Old Club." Nicholas himself was the distiller. The new company expanded the facility once again. As a result, the distillery by 1936 was mashing more than 500 bushels of grain per day. Four warehouses had been enlarged in order to store for aging some 38,000 barrels of whiskey.



By late in the 1930s, probably because of economic pressures linked to the

Great Depression, the Blair Distilling Company was sold by the family, then re-sold, and later used as a facility to bottle and store wine. Leased to Seagrams during World War II, the plant produced high-proof spirits but production ended in the 1950s and the distillery was closed for good about 1965. For a time the warehouses continued to be used by other distillers to age their products but that ended in 1977 and the warehouses eventually were dismantled. Even from the grave, Mary Jane Blair might have shed a tear.

**Note:** Do not go looking on a map of Kentucky for a place called Chicago. Possibly because of confusion with the Illinois city on Lake Michigan, the townsfolk changed the name, calling it after their church. Since 1938 the community has been known as St. Francis, Kentucky.

Posted by **Jack Sullivan** at [10:47 AM](#)

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## 4 comments:



**Julia David** February 17, 2015 at 5:53 AM

What a nice blog...I am really very impressed to read this..Thanks to admin for posting this nice blog....WOW!!!!  
[Chicago Food Grade Warehouse.](#)

[Reply](#)



**Jack Sullivan** March 14, 2015 at 7:39 AM

Dear Julia: Thanks for you kind comments. Mary Jane Blair is one of my favorites. Hope to do some writing on her for other publications. Jack

[Reply](#)



**Alex Blair** January 18, 2017 at 9:17 AM

Jack,

Mary Jane Blair was my great-great-great-grandmother. I would love to look at any source material if you have it. I am writing a family history. Thanks very much!

Alex

[Reply](#) [Delete](#)

**Jack Sullivan** January 18, 2017 at 9:27 AM

6/26/2017

## Those Pre-Pro Whiskey Men! Mary Jane Blair and Her Kentucky Distillery



Dear Alex: Send your email address to me at jack.sullivan9@verizon.net and I will send you my raw notes that may be of some help. If you want them I can also send any images related. Mary Jane Blair was a remarkable woman and a distinguished ancestor.

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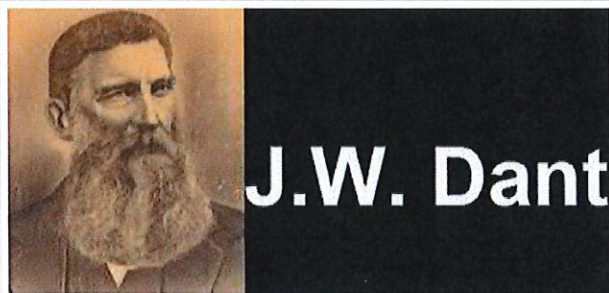
# Those Pre-Pro Whiskey Men!

Monday, October 24, 2016

## The Dants "Permeated" Kentucky Distilling

Families in the development of American whiskey were nowhere more important than in Kentucky — and in Kentucky no family name was more renowned than Dant. As one author accurately has said: *"The Dant family permeated the Kentucky bourbon industry."* The Dant saga needs a book to do it justice. As a result, I will be featuring only three of its members, the founding father and two of his sons.

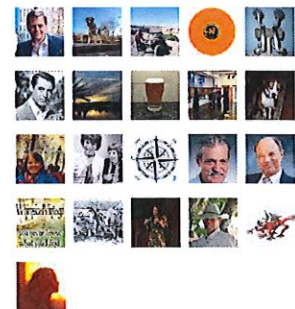
**Joseph Washington Dant** — The progenitor of the the Dant family was J. W. Dant, born in May 1920 in Loretto, Marion County, into a farm family with French roots. His father and mother, Jean Baptiste and Mary Jane Smith Dant, were both native Kentuckians. The little that is known of Joseph's early life is that he received some elementary education and that his first occupation was as a blacksmith.



At the age of about sixteen in Joseph apparently decided that making whiskey held more promise than beating hot iron. In 1836 he founded his first distillery in Marion County on Walnut Ridge Farm, a site located ten miles west of Loretto. When the Louisville and Nashville (L & N) Railroad made it a stop, it became known as Dant Station. Joseph's first still was hewn from a log, a primitive method used by pioneers in Kentucky when they did not have the money for a copper kettle. The process used logs of of about ten feet in length. The timber would be split, hollowed out, and a copper tube inserted; then the two halves would be joined. The hollowed areas would be filled with fermented mash and steam would be fed through the piping for the initial distillation. A second distillation would follow. The process was called "making it on a log" or "running it

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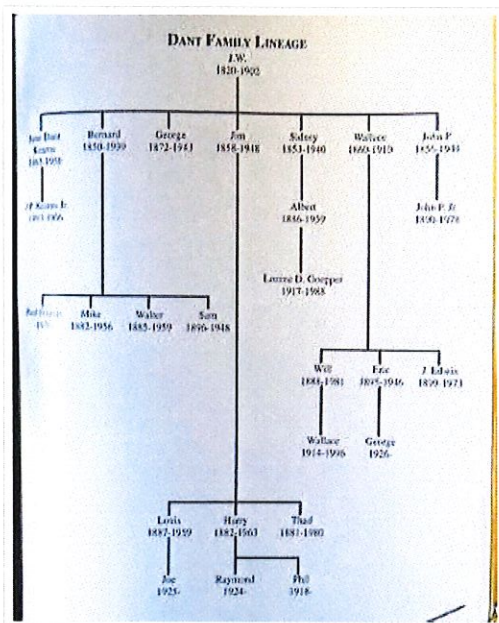
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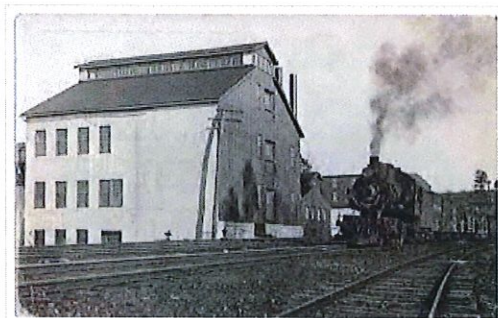
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  - August (6)
  - July (8)
  - June (7)
  - May (8)
  - April (8)
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  - February (7)
  - January (10)

on a log." Although crude, this method could result in good whiskey in the right hands — and Joseph had them.

In February 1849 he married Ann Catherine Ballard, a woman of 19 who was ten years his junior. The couple would have ten children, seven boys and three girls. The eldest, of whom we will hear more later, was J. Bernard Dant, born in 1850. The chart below shows the Dant family lineage involved with distilling in Kentucky.



The Dant family has related a story about Joseph early on producing more whiskey than local consumption could absorb so he determined to expand his territory. He would cart barrels of whiskey by wagon to the Beech Fork River, build a raft, and float it down the Mississippi to New Orleans. Dant himself is reputed to have accompanied three of those shipments, walking back to Kentucky from Louisiana, a distance of more than 600 miles. By the third trip, it is said, he was able to afford a mule and rode back.



As the years progressed, the reputation of Dant's whiskey grew. Joseph produced much of his own grain for the distiller on his 196 acre farm and eventually established his own

cooperage, building barrels onsite. By 1870 he had sufficient resources to build a state of the art distillery. A unique aspect of the operation was that it was built to take advantage of gravity.

► 2015 (92)

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► 2012 (76)

► 2011 (53)

#### About Me

##### Jack Sullivan

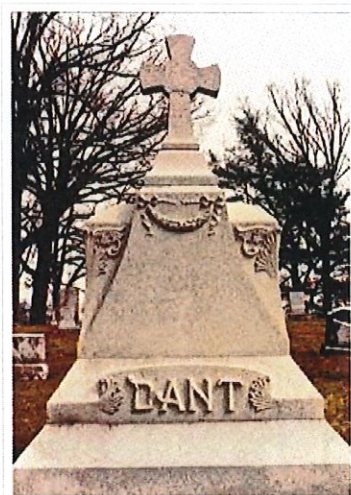
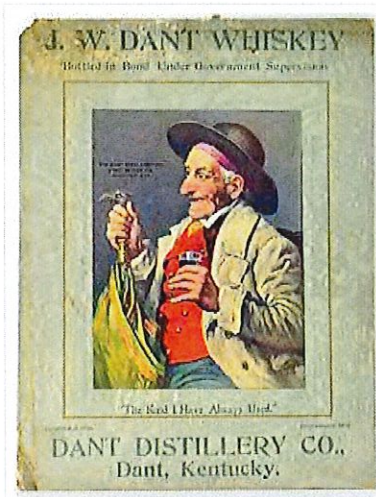
Over a period of almost two decades, I have written more than 325 articles for collector magazines and newsletters in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, and Australia. The subjects generally are those signaled by the title of this site. Although many of my articles can be found on several websites whose links are referenced here, and I will be continuing to write "in hard copy," this blog will provide an outlet for research results that are too short or of such narrowly-focused interest as to preclude their publication elsewhere. Through the magic of the Internet -- and judicious use of key words -- I am hopeful that collectors, genealogy buffs, and those interested in arcane tidbits of history will find their way to this site and receive information not readily available elsewhere.

[View my complete profile](#)



The mash tub was much higher than the fermenters and with the aid of a very large pipe, Joseph was able to fill his tubs without the need for pumping. The flow was said to be intense. Gravity also was employed in the bottling process as whiskey was filtered by gravity to a tank and then to the bottling line.

According to insurance underwriters records, Dant's facility was of frame construction with with a shingle roof. It had a single warehouse, built of brick with a metal or slate roof, located 225 feet west of the still. After passage of the Bottled-in-Bonding Act, the warehouse became bonded. By that time it held 3,300 barrels of aging whiskey and the distillery was mashing about 200 bushels a day, equivalent to a twenty barrel output. Downwind about 100 feet were cattle pens where livestock was being fed the spent mash. A photo shows Dant Station as it looked in the late 1800s. With railroad tracks adjacent, a siding gave easy access to load barrels on freight cars for customers nationwide. As shown here on an advertising flyer, the whiskey was sold under the J. W. Dant name and the slogan, "The Kind I Have Always Used."

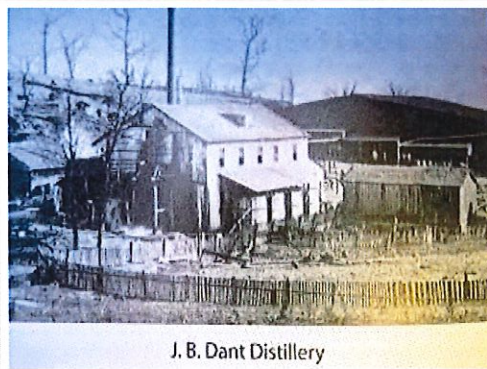


Sometime during the 1880s, Joseph retired from directing the distillery, turning the management over to a son, Wallace, joined later by a younger brother, George. Under their leadership the company incorporated in 1897, with George as the largest shareholder. The founding father died in February 1902 and was buried in St. Francis Cemetery, Marion County. The Dant family monument is shown here. J. W. Dant company would survive and

prosper until the coming of National Prohibition. Under the guidance of George Dant and other family members, the distillery was resurrected after Repeal, operating for seven years until being sold in 1941. The facility shut down for good in 1951.

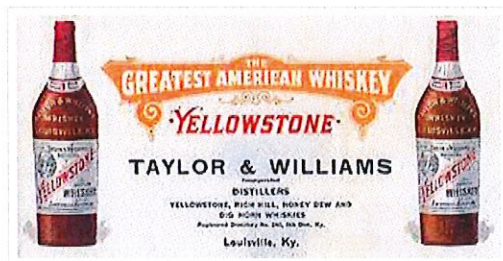


**Joseph Bernard Dant** — The eldest child of Joseph and Anne Dant, Bernard Dant, as he was called throughout his life, began his career in distilling working for his father while still in his teen years. Although he continued to be associated with the J. W. Dant Co. for a number of years, about 1882 he moved from Dant Station to Gethsemane Station about 10 miles down the L & N. line and built his own distillery. Shown below, insurance records indicate that the facility was of frame construction. The property included two warehouses, both ironclad and located adjacent to each other.



J. B. Dant Distillery

Listed as Registered Distillery No. 240, District 5, Bernard called it "Cold Spring Distillery." Its claim to fame was for creating "Yellowstone Whiskey". Bernard is given credit for its popularity but the brand did not appear bear the Dant name, rather under the label of Taylor & William, Inc. This was a Louisville wholesale liquor house established in 1865. In 1871 a Taylor sales manager visited the newly opened Yellowstone National Park and noting the enthusiasm over its natural wonders, decided to name a brand of whiskey after it.



Later J. T. Williams joined the firm and it became Taylor & Williams. Because the company had no distillery of its own it was dependent on getting adequate

supplies for the increasingly popular Yellowstone brand. As a result, Taylor & Williams in the 1880s contracted with Dant and his Cold Spring Distillery to produce and bottle it and other company proprietary labels.

Meanwhile, Bernard was having a personal life. About 1875 he married Nancy Ellen Ferriell, a Kentucky native. They would have a family of six sons, two of whom died in young adulthood, and two daughters. Meanwhile this Dant's reputation as a master distiller was redounding through Kentucky and beyond.

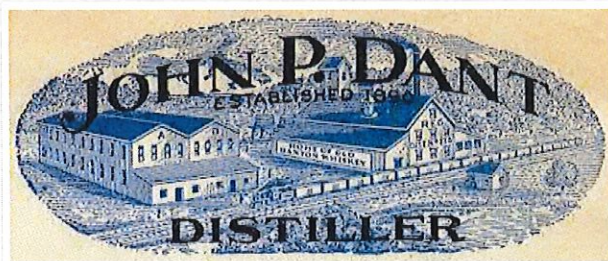
In 1900 he moved to Louisville and became president of Taylor & Williams. In 1903 the company incorporated with Bernard at the helm and his eldest son, Sam J. Dant, as the treasurer. Eventually each of his surviving sons would be involved in the distilling industry.



With National Prohibition, the Cold Spring Distillery shut down and Taylor & Williams closed. Bernard, known as "The Grand Old Man" of Kentucky whiskey, lived long enough to see Repeal, when the family dismantled the distillery at Gethsemane, created Yellowstone, Inc., as a distilling company, and built a new facility in Jefferson County. Bernard was listed as vice president of that firm.

Bernard Dant died several years later at 89 years, accounted by the *Louisville Courier Journal* as "the oldest active distiller in the country." His wife Nancy Ellen had preceded him in death two years earlier. With his brothers and sisters, children, thirteen grandchildren and four great-grandchildren gathered at the graveside, he was interred next to Nancy in Louisville's Calvary Catholic Cemetery.

**John Procter Dant** — John P. was the third of J. W. Gant's sons, born in 1856. Like his brother, Bernard, John early on went to work for his father at the Dant Station distillery. As indicated by his letterhead below, in 1890 John struck out on his own, buying a distillery that may have been established as early as 1855. It was known as RD #174, District 5, and located in a town then called Chicago, now St. Francis, Kentucky. Dant called it the "Old Danton Distillery" after his flagship brand.



Insurance records compiled in 1892 indicate that the distillery was of frame construction and included two bonded warehouses. Both warehouses were frame and located adjacent to one another about 90 feet from the distillery. The illustration on the letterhead confirms those records. Note that a rail line is shown serving the plant. John employed a nephew, Thad Dant, as his distiller. After operating the facility for several years, he



sold out and moved to Louisville where he started a wholesale liquor house.

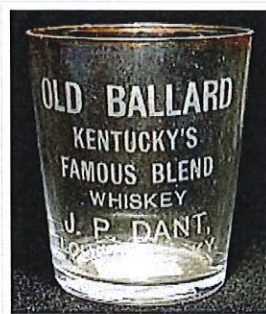
Meanwhile John also was having a personal life. About 1884 he married Ann Josephine Smith, born in Marion County, the daughter of William Henry and Rosella Lancaster Smith, both native Kentuckians. The Dants would have a family of four, according to records. Their first son named after Joseph William Dant sadly died in infancy. Then came two daughters and in 1890 a second son, John Jr.



John Dant was very successful as a liquor wholesaler, operating from his address at 909 Broadway as the "Pioneer Bottling House" and featuring "Old Dant Sour Mash Whiskey." His store featured a large jug bearing his name. As



shown here, John also favored ceramic jugs for his products. Those came in a variety of formats including an Albany glaze with an underglaze transfer and a "scratch" jug.



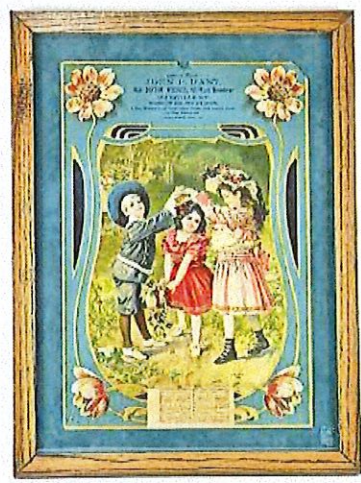
He also featured a number of giveaways to special customers, including his "Old Ballard" brand on a shot glass and a decorative calendar advertising Old Danton Whiskey. From 1909 to 1913 he also maintained a liquor outlet in New Albany, Indiana.

John Dant's

Louisville operation came to a halt in 1919 with the imposition of National Prohibition.

Perhaps sensing that the "dry" era would be relatively short, he bided his time. Soon after Repeal at the age of 68 he built a new distillery at Meadowlawn in South Jefferson County. He called it the John P. Dant Distillery (RD #39) and leased the Grosscurth Distillery (RD #26) located in Anchorage,

Jefferson County. Both operations were incorporated as the





Meadowlawn Distillery Company, with John P. Senior as president and John P. Junior as vice-president, treasurer and distiller. The total mashing capacity was a hefty 471 bushels a day and six warehouses had the capacity to hold 7,500 barrels of aging whiskey. Among his post-Prohibition brands were "Old Boone," "Distiller's Choice," and "Old 1889."

Described in his obituary as a "*veteran Kentucky distiller and a member of a family long identified with the industry*," John P. Dant died at his Louisville home at the age of 89 in April 1944. His wife, Ann, had preceded him by 16 years. After a funeral service at Christ the King Catholic Church, John was interred next to Ann in Louisville's Calvary Cemetery. Management of his distilleries was taken over by his son, who sold off the remaining family interest in 1950.

This post has profiled just three of the many Dants involved in Kentucky whiskey. As noted earlier, it would take a book to do full justice to all involved family members in the years since J. W. in 1836 began distilling, thus insuring that the Dant name became an integral part of American whiskey history.

Posted by **Jack Sullivan** at 11:28 AM

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Labels: Cold Spring Distillery, Dant Station, J. Bernard Dant, J. W. Dant Whiskey, John P. Dant, Joseph W. Dant, Old Ballard Whiskey, Old Danton, Pioneer Bottling House, Taylor & Williams, Yellowstone Whiskey

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6/26/2017

Those Pre-Pro Whiskey Men!: The Dants "Permeated" Kentucky Distilling

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Recorded  
to the  
Memento of  
Charles Blain  
Who departed this  
life April 1847.  
Aged about 5 years



Sept 12, 1932

The wedding of Miss Mary Lockie Blair and Paul Clifford Buckman was solemnized at 7:30 o'clock Tuesday morning at St. Francis Church at Chicago, the pastor, Rev. N. Werner, officiating. The ceremony was followed by a Nuptial High Mass. The sanctuary and altars were prettily decorated with lighted candles, ferns and summer flowers.

Miss Marguerite Blair, sister of the bride, was the bridesmaid, and Leo Mills was the groom's best man. Lawrence J. Elder and Richard Blair were the ushers.

The bridal party entered the church to the strains of Lohengrin's Bridal Chorus, played by Miss Nell Nugent, organist, assisted by Mrs. Robert Mattingly and Talmage Riggs, violinists. During the ceremony "I Love You Truly" was played and at the offertory of the mass Clement Lamkin of Raywick sang "Ave Maria." The party left the church as Mendelssohn's Wedding March was played. The Chicago church choir assisted with the music.

The bride was gowned in white ruffled taffeta. She wore a veil edged with lace which was adjusted to head in cap fashion and held in place by orange blossoms. Her flowers were an arm bouquet of Bride's roses.

The bridesmaid was attired in a blue taffeta with pink sash and other trimmings. She wore a large pink hat and carried an arm bouquet of pink roses.

Following the ceremony a breakfast was served at the home of the bride for the wedding party and a few relatives and close friends, after which Mr. and Mrs. Buckman left on a trip to the Century of Progress Exposition in Chicago, Ill. They will also visit relatives in Tippecanoe, Ind. They expect to go to house-keeping shortly after their return here.

The bride is the attractive daughter of F. N. Blair of Loretto, and is a young woman possessing many qualities of mind and heart that have won for her a host of warm friends. She was graduated from St. Augustine's High School and later completed a course at a Louisville business college. She was cashier at the F. S. Marshall Company in this city until about a year ago when she resigned.

The groom is the only son of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Buckman of New Market. For several years he has been associated with the Lerman Bros. Department Store in this city. He is a splendid young man and is highly regarded by all who know him.

Blair

**Hughes-Blair.**

The wedding of Miss Mary Emma Hughes of Raywick and Louis Bertrand Blair of Loretto was solemnized at St. Francis Xavier's church at Raywick Thursday morning at 5 o'clock, the Rev. Vincent Sciolla officiating. The ceremony which was followed by a Nuptial Mass was witnessed by quite a number of relatives and friends.

Miss Mary Lockie Blair, sister of the groom, was the bridesmaid, and Raffo Blanford was the groom's best man.

Following the ceremony a wedding breakfast was served at the home of the bride after which Mr. and Mrs. Blair left on a short bridal trip.

The bride is an attractive young woman and possesses many qualities of mind and heart that have endeared her to a host of warm friends. She is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Hughes. The groom is a splendid young man and is a prosperous farmer. He is a son of former Sheriff F. Nan Blair. Both the bride and groom are well known and popular in the communities where they live.

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