

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

INFORMATION IS SOUGHT

Editor of The Enterprise:

Twenty-nine years ago last January Dr. W. W. Cleaver, the well known physician and ex-Confederate soldier, wrote to the editor of The Enterprise about a house still standing on Hardin's Creek and then known as the P. C. Cleaver place, or the Dallas Simms house. The house is situated about a mile and a quarter below the Lebanon depot, Southwest of Lebanon, three hundreds yards South of the L. & N. Railroad tracks. Here at one time lived Richard Spalding, father of Archbishop Martin John Spalding, the archbishop and other children by Richard Spalding's first wife, Henrietta Hamilton, being born at Calvary and the children by two later wives, namely: Henrietta Thompson and Mary Charlton better known as the widow Adams being born in the house herein described: Dr. Cleaver's letter is as follows:

A BIT OF HISTORY

Lebanon, Ky., Jan. 22, 1908.

Editors Enterprise: I have been asked so often of late "who built the house now owned and occupied by P. C. Cleaver?" I will, in part give you the history of the house and place.

James McElroy, who lived near Lynchburg, Va., where all of his children were born, moved to Kentucky in about 1788 and settled on Hardin's Creek, in a log cabin, where he later built that brick house, in which all his daughters married. His wife was a Miss Irvine, a grand woman. My uncle, William E. McElroy, who was the grandfather of Governor J. Proctor Knott, did the carpenter's work on that house. James McElroy bought a large tract of land there. He also bought a grist mill, and his neighbors for miles around came to get their corn

ground, out of which they baked their Virginia hoe cakes and "Johnny cakes." His lands ran into what is now the City of Lebanon. He called the town Lebanon because it was nigh unto Basham, the Scriptural name of his home. James McElroy had five daughters and two sons. One of the daughters married General Allen and another married his brother, Major Allen of Greensburg. One married Rev. Blythe, a Presbyterian preacher, one married Mr. Butler, who was a brother of General William O. Butler; the youngest, Esther, married my father-in-law, Felix B. Grundy. When . . . died his widow married Major Speed. Rev. Blythe moved to Indiana and built up Hanover . . . after his death his son, Rev. William Blythe, attended college. He was the father of the present Mrs. Robert Anthony McElroy of Springfield, Ky.

After the death of James McElroy, his son, W. I. McElroy, who married Miss Muldrow, got the home place; his brother, Dr. James A. McElroy, got the land running from the home tract into Lebanon, embracing the land afterward owned by George Phillips, now owned by his grandson, George Graham; Felix B. Grundy, the lands where J. Henry Kirk now lives and owns. When all the McElroy family moved to

Missouri, the widow of James McElroy went to live with her youngest daughter, Mrs. Grundy, where she died, being well up into ninety years. Father Bob Abell often told me that he made annual visits to Mrs. McElroy at the Grundy place, as long as she lived. He said "she was one of the best women whom I ever saw. When a boy, I went there to the mil. At dinner time I was taken over to the house and she gave me light bread and butter and honey on it, too, and plenty of milk to wash it down."

William McElroy has two daughters still living. Mrs. Dr. Griffith of Springfield, Ill., and Mrs. Wilson of Colorado Springs, Colo. William I. McElroy sold Basham to Richard Spalding, Sr., who moved there from near Calvary, where the Archbishop Martin John Spalding, his brother, Father Benedict, and others were born. The other two sets of children were born at this place. After his death his son, Joe, bought and lived there. I think Joe Spalding sold the place to Proc McElroy, who was compelled to sell it to pay a large security debt for a friend. Nick Wathen, Ben Wilson and John Dallas Simms and others owned it at one time or another. If anyone doubts the correctness of this, the Washington County Clerk's Office would prove who Richard Spalding bought it from.

W. W. CLEAVER.

The blank appearing in the letter is blurred in my scrapbook. Will someone please supply it?

SAM J. BOLDRICK.

IF - CLEAVER

Peggy F. Rush
14409 Fairway Drive
Eden Prairie, MN 55344

5 April 1993

Veronica Hill, Librarian
Marion County Public Library
201 East Main Street
Lebanon, KY 40033

Dear Veronica,

Thank you for your check for THE PHILLIPS FAMILY OF STATION RUN AND
HARDIN'S CREEK.

Enclosed is my book on the Cleaver family which I would like to donate to your
library. Genealogists in Marion County may be interested in the section on my 4th
great-grandfather, David Cleaver, Sr., on pages 49-61, and especially in the names
which are found in his estate papers on page 59. I understand that there are still
descendants of David Cleaver, Jr., in Marion County.

Sincerely,

Peggy Rush

DAVID CLEAVER, SR.

David Cleaver and his wife, Letitia, are this writer's fourth great-grandparents. Like his brothers Benjamin and William, Jr., David spent his entire adult life in Kentucky.

No specific document has been found bearing the date and place of David's birth, but existing data suggests that he was born ca. 1768. According to family tradition, he was born in New Jersey. However, it would appear more likely that he was born in Virginia as his brother, Stephen, who was born approximately two years before David, was reported to have been born in Virginia. The family was probably migrating west at the time. Hannah is assumed to have been David's mother.

When the family moved to Kentucky, David was approximately eleven years old, and he was undoubtedly among the seven tithables in his father's household on the 1785 lists. The first time that David was given in the Nelson County records was in 1786. As noted above, Barnett's lists for 1786-1788 included the area in which William Cleaver lived and were not returned. For some reason David was counted with John Stooner (Stoner) on the 1786 Nelson County tithables on Isaac Cox's list which included the area in and around present Bardstown. David would have been around eighteen at the time.

In 1789 David (given as Davis) was listed with his father and brother James in Captain Reed's Company, Will May's list, south of Bardstown. In 1790 David was again named with his father in Captain Williams' Company on Michael Campbell's list.

David's military career in the militia must have begun prior to that time, as he was listed as a Lieutenant in the 2nd Battalion of the Nelson County militia under Colonel Hardin in 1791. Because of David's militia records and other information, a short sketch of Colonel John Hardin has been included here. Significant male role models in David's life included his brothers Benjamin, William, and Stephen, and probably John Hardin under whom David served when he was a young man.

The Hardins migrated from Fauquier County, Virginia, to George's Creek on the Monongahela River in present in Fayette County, Pennsylvania. John Hardin was born in 1753, the son of Martin Hardin (who died ca. 1779 in Pennsylvania) and Lydia Waters, sister to Philemon Waters, Sr. John Hardin married Jane Davis, served in Dunmore's War in 1774 and the Revolution, and moved to Kentucky in 1786 where he settled on Pleasant Run in present Washington County. While in the Revolutionary War, he was a 2nd Lieutenant in the 8th Virginia Regiment and in Daniel Morgan's Rifle Corps, as was Abraham Hornbeck who married David's sister Hannah. Benjamin and William Cleaver, Jr., served with Philemon Waters (probably Jr.) under Captain James Davis of Nelson County. Again, the records suggest prior acquaintances.

John Hardin continued to be prominent in the militia and local government after his move to Kentucky. He led raids against the Mackachack villages in 1786 and was commissioned a Colonel in 1789 when he and a company of 200 mounted militiamen crossed the Ohio in retaliation against the Shawnee Indians who had stolen many of their horses. The records also state that Hardin was with Harmar's troops during their abortive campaign in 1790 (see Sword and Eckert). Court martial minutes dated July 15, 1791, of the 2nd Battalion of the Nelson County militia under Col. John Hardin included the names of Major Matthew Walton, Captains David Gilkey, Samuel Willett, Proctor Ballard, Edward Williams, Charles Kennet, Samuel Sandusky, Lieutenants Thomas Elliott and David Cleaver, and Ensigns Philip Lee and Jno. Masterson. Hardin (and David Cleaver) may also have been with St. Clair in 1791.

Col. John Hardin's name appears many times in Pioneer History of Washington County as one of the men who planned the creation of that county from Nelson. From 1790 to 1792 Hardin, Matthew Walton, Robert Abell, Charles Ewing, David Caldwell, and Francis Simbrell (the stepfather of David Cleaver's future wife) were busy working on plans for the new county. Hardin was named as one of the first Commissioners of the Peace in Washington

County, but he never served because he was killed by the Indians while on a peace mission under orders of Gen. Wilkinson in 1792. Based upon his brothers' experiences and Col. John Hardin's murder, David Cleaver could personally relate to the description of Kentucky as the "dark and bloody ground," but the Cleavers, like the Hardins and others, would not be denied their dream.

Many students today immediately think of the Rocky Mountain area when they hear the word "pioneer" and are unaware of the fact that the present state of Kentucky was on the American frontier when America was still a colony of Great Britain. Regardless of the moral and ethical questions of the westward movement, the entire history of the present fifty states might have been very different if it were not for the sacrifices of those pioneers in Kentucky. Another false perception held by many is that the first settlers were basically illiterate and provincial, when an examination of the records reveals that a cross-section of the pioneers in Kentucky contained as representative a group as is found in modern communities. There were the farmers, hunters, and traders; but there were also the professional men, private land speculators, members of large and well-organized land companies, lawyers, doctors, merchants, and craftsmen. Many of the pioneers were more sophisticated in some ways than their eastern cousins because of the diversity on the frontier. History books suggest that provincialism developed much later and after that diversity disappeared.

Little is known about David Cleaver's military service between 1791 and 1801 when he was given as a captain in the 4th Regiment of the Washington County militia. In 1792 he was taxed for one horse in Nelson County. He was not taxed for any land that year or in 1793.

Records found in Jefferson County suggest that David was probably involved in some type of trading or merchandising prior to his marriage. In 1800 David would sue Samuel Griffy (Griffith) in Jefferson County for damages based on Griffith's failure to pay for some iron which he had ordered on September 26, 1793. Griffith agreed to buy 245 weight bar iron "to be delivered at the Falls 12 months after date and payment to be made to said David Cleaver." The agreement was witnessed by Evan Davis and Jno. Williams (Old Circuit Court Case No. 4767, Jefferson County, Kentucky).

Based on research in Yohogania County, Virginia, and Washington County, Pennsylvania, Samuel Griffith was the brother of David's wife, Letitia (both being children of Samuel and Elizabeth Griffith). On January 24, 1792, in Jefferson County, Kentucky, Samuel (born ca. 1770) married Hannah Ketcham, daughter of Elizabeth _____ Ketchum who had married secondly Moses Kuykendall. Further information about Samuel and Hannah (Ketcham) Griffith may be found in Jefferson County Power of Attorney Book 2, 1799-1805, pages 267-268, and Jefferson County Deed Books 8:235-237, N:435-438, and W:327-328.

On the same day when Samuel Griffith signed this agreement, two other men made an oral agreement with David Cleaver regarding delivery of iron. Papers in Jefferson County Case No. 3245 in Common Law state that Evan Davis and James Ferrell ordered 530 weight of iron or pot metals from David on September 26, 1793 to be delivered on December 25, 1793. Davis and Ferrell took delivery and did not pay for the merchandise. A warrant was issued on September 9, 1794, to answer the charges, and bail bond for James Ferrell was provided by James F. Moore and Att. Math Love with Jno. Williams as witness. When it was settled, damages in the amount of 23 pounds 12 shillings 1 pence were awarded to David on April 16, 1795.

These and other documents below suggest that David was engaged in river trade between Fort Pitt and the Falls. Deeds in Washington County, Pennsylvania, relating to the sale of Letitia's portion of her father's land indicate that David was also in that area in January of 1797 (see below).

David Cleaver married Letitia Griffith in Washington County, Kentucky, in November 18, 1793. Samuel Griffy (sic), probably her brother, co-signed the bond (Book 1:3). Elizabeth Simrel (Simbrell) gave her written consent, as Letitia was seventeen years old at the time. David was probably twenty-five.

November the 17th 1793 This is to Certify that David Cleaver hath gained my
Consent to have my Daughter Lettishey in marriage given under my hand.
Signed/Elizabeth (her mark) Simrell
(To) Mr. John Read
Witnesses: Samuel Griffy, Hannah Griffy

On the same day Francis Simbrell (Letitia's step-father) gave his consent:

November 17th 1793. To Mr. John Reed (Sr?)
I have nothing aginste a licence granted for Tishey Griffy and David Cleaver given
under my hand and seal. Signed/Francis Simbrell
Samuel Griffy (witness)

It is not known how David and Letitia met. Francis and Elizabeth (Griffith) Simbrell were living in Washington County prior to its creation from Nelson in 1792. As noted above, Simbrell was active in the initial organization of the county, and he witnessed a deed from Ezekiel Norris to John Phillips at the mouth of Hardin's Creek in 1790 (Nelson Co. Deed Book 4:275-277). In 1790 James Phillips of Baltimore and heir-at-law of Samuel Cartwright deeded 250 acres to Francis Simbrell on Cartwright's Creek where Simbrell lived (Nelson Co. Deed Book 3:58-60), and the Simbrells sold it to John Reed, Jr., in 1792 (Wash. Co. Deed Book A:10-11). The Simbrells would also deed two tracts to John Phillips in Washington County in 1813 (Deed Book D:329-331).

Although this sketch will not elaborate in depth on Letitia Griffith's family (which in itself is a comprehensive study), a few facts may be of interest to those readers who descend from her line. Letitia's father, Samuel Griffith, died by October 11, 1787, in Yohogania County, Virginia (now Washington County, Pennsylvania) when a trust was set up for his minor children (Wash. Co. Deed Book I-T, pp. 29-30). The names of Samuel's parents are unknown, but he had a brother, Edward, who married Letitia Blackburn and died by March 24, 1778, in Smith's Township there. Letitia Blackburn-Griffith married secondly William Martin who died in Washington County, Pennsylvania, in 1797 (Will Book 1:319-310).

Samuel Griffith married Elizabeth (maiden name unknown) and they had four children: Letitia (who married David Cleaver), Samuel (who married Hannah Ketchum), Sarah (who married Eli Allen), and Elizabeth (who married Moses Harrell in 1790 in Nelson County, Kentucky). As the widow of Samuel Griffith, Elizabeth married Francis Simbrell who may have been from the present area of West Newton in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, where a Simrall's Ferry was operating about thirty miles upstream from Pittsburgh on the Youghiogheny River in 1788 (Sword, p. 59). Several meetings involving the organization of Washington County, Kentucky, were held in Francis Simbrell's home, and a cabin of his was used as the first, temporary jail in that county.

Letitia Griffith's headstone in the Cleaver cemetery in southern Hardin County states that she was born in 1775. However, in a deposition which Letitia gave supporting Abraham Hornbeck's service in the Revolutionary War, she gave her birthdate as May 26, 1776. It is assumed that she was born in Pennsylvania as her father's name is found in court minutes there during that period of time.

Although David and Letitia's residence is given as Washington County in the records, David died before Marion County was created and the records suggest that their farm was in the latter area. It is also believed that they began their married life on the Simbrell homestead as the earliest deed found for David was dated in 1795. An ad appeared in the Kentucky Gazette in 1794 stating that David Cleaver had found a mare near Ray's Mill in Washington County. Ray's Mill is said to have been near the mouth of Prather's Creek in Marion County. When Letitia gave her affidavit in 1845, it was given before Zachariah Ray, Justice of the Peace. Those and other records suggest that the Cleaver farm may have been in the Raywick area. Research is difficult in Marion County because most of the early records were lost by fire.

David and Letitia's first child was probably named for her maternal grandmother, Elizabeth Griffith-Simbrell. She would marry Edmund Phillips, son of Benjamin Phillips, Sr., in Washington County in 1812 (Book 1:119), with J. Chandler conducting the ceremony. They moved to the Rock Creek area of Grayson County where both died. The middle initials or names of five of David's children are known (i.e., Elizabeth W., Hannah D., Sarah A., Samuel Griffith, and Stephen D.), but it is unknown what the "W" in Elizabeth's name stands for. It may indicate the first letter of Letitia's mother Elizabeth's maiden name, and Hannah's "D" may be a clue to David's mother Hannah's maiden name.

In 1795 Joseph Barnett(t) assigned to David Cleaver. Land documents which

Elizabeth W., was born on September 11, 1794, and grandmother, Elizabeth Griffith-Simbrell. She would marry Edmund Phillips, son of Benjamin Phillips, Sr., in Washington County in 1812 (Book 1:119), with J. Chandler conducting the ceremony. They moved to the Rock Creek area of Grayson County where both died. The middle initials or names of five of David's children are known (i.e., Elizabeth W., Hannah D., Sarah A., Samuel Griffith, and Stephen D.), but it is unknown what the "W" in Elizabeth's name stands for. It may indicate the first letter of Letitia's mother Elizabeth's maiden name, and Hannah's "D" may be a clue to David's mother Hannah's maiden name.

d 205 acres on Little Cane Creek in Washington County which were found in Frankfort have been included below.

Survey #1704 on Tr. War. #6698 205 acres of land upon part of Warrant No. 6698 in Washington County and the head waters of Little Cane Run a north branch of the Rolling Fork and adjoining his 218 acre survey on the north side which survey is made upon part of the same entry. Beginning at a corner thereof a white oak ash and dogwood said to be in Ray's line Thence with a line of the said 218 acre Survey (S) 77 E 180 poles to an ash Hickory and Spanish Oak on a Branch in a line said to be Stewarts, thence with said Line North 280 poles to a Buckeye Honey locust and ash on the north side of a small Branch on a line of Stewarts 500 acre Survey Thence with the said Line West 69 poles to a Gum and two white Oaks on the north side of a ridge in a line said to be Ray's Thence with the said line (S) 24 (degrees) W 260 poles to the Beginning. Signed by John Helm SMC 20 February 1795 Witnessed by Thomas Cummins and David Cleaver CC (chain crew).

warrant not located in Frankfort), surveyed for Joseph Barnett an entry for 500 acres which entry was made upon a Treasury County and the head waters of Little Cane Run a north branch of the Rolling Fork and adjoining his 218 acre survey on the north side which survey is made upon part of the same entry. Beginning at a corner thereof a white oak ash and dogwood said to be in Ray's line Thence with a line of the said 218 acre Survey (S) 77 E 180 poles to an ash Hickory and Spanish Oak on a Branch in a line said to be Stewarts, thence with said Line North 280 poles to a Buckeye Honey locust and ash on the north side of a small Branch on a line of Stewarts 500 acre Survey Thence with the said Line West 69 poles to a Gum and two white Oaks on the north side of a ridge in a line said to be Ray's Thence with the said line (S) 24 (degrees) W 260 poles to the Beginning. Signed by John Helm SMC 20 February 1795 Witnessed by Thomas Cummins and David Cleaver CC (chain crew).

I Joseph Barnett do acknowledge myself director of the above Survey and will further Justify the said John Helm in making this survey as is given under my hand this 25th day of July 1795. Signed by Joseph Barnett. Teste Stephen Cleaver and Bob Baird.

myself director of the above Survey and will further Justify the said John Helm in making this survey as is given under my hand this 25th day of July 1795. Signed by Joseph Barnett. Teste Stephen Cleaver and Bob Baird.

Reverse side: I hereby assign the patent to be issued in his name. Signed by Joseph Barnett Feby 25th 1795. Teste Stephen Cleaver and Bob Baird. Recorded 1 June 1796 in Book 3 Folio 418.

the within (plat) to David Cleaver for value recd and direct the patent to be issued in his name. Signed by Joseph Barnett Feby 25th 1795. Teste Stephen Cleaver and Bob Baird. Recorded 1 June 1796 in Book 3 Folio 418.

Additional note on reverse side this Survey is founded is lost or mislaid so that it cannot be found. Signed by John Helm. The entry made the 14th December 1782 (below Helm's signature and in his writing).

William May certifies that the Treasury Warrant upon which this Survey is founded is lost or mislaid so that it cannot be found. Signed by John Helm. The entry made the 14th December 1782 (below Helm's signature and in his writing).

Old Kentucky Grant #1704 (7/48) Kentucky To all to whom these presents shall come greeting: Know ye that by virtue and in consideration of a land office treasury warrant number 6698 there is granted by the said Commonwealth unto David Cleaver, assignee of Joseph Barnett, a certain tract or parcel of land containing two hundred and five acres by survey bearing date the 20th day of February 1795 lying and being in Washington County the head waters of Little Cain Run a north branch of the Rowling fork and adjoining his 218 acre survey on the north side which survey was made upon part of the same entry and bounded as followeth towit, Beginning at a Corner thereof a white Oak, ash, and Dogwood said to be in Ray's line thence with a line of the said 218 acres south 77 (deg) East one hundred and eighty poles to an ash, Hickory and Spanish Oak on a branch in a line said to be Stewarts thence with said line north 280 poles to a Buckeye Honey Locust and ash on the north side of a small branch in a line of Stewarts 500 acre survey thence with the said line (N) 69 poles to a gum and two white Oaks on the north side of a ridge in a line said to be Rays thence with said line S 24 (deg) West 260 poles to the Beginning with its appurtenances To Have and to hold the said tract or parcel of land with its appurtenances to the said David Cleaver and his heirs forever. In Witness whereof the said James Garrard Esquire Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky hath hereunto set his Hand and caused the

James Garrard Esquire Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky To all to whom these presents shall come greeting: Know ye that by virtue and in consideration of a land office treasury warrant number 6698 there is granted by the said Commonwealth unto David Cleaver, assignee of Joseph Barnett, a certain tract or parcel of land containing two hundred and five acres by survey bearing date the 20th day of February 1795 lying and being in Washington County the head waters of Little Cain Run a north branch of the Rowling fork and adjoining his 218 acre survey on the north side which survey was made upon part of the same entry and bounded as followeth towit, Beginning at a Corner thereof a white Oak, ash, and Dogwood said to be in Ray's line thence with a line of the said 218 acres south 77 (deg) East one hundred and eighty poles to an ash, Hickory and Spanish Oak on a branch in a line said to be Stewarts thence with said line north 280 poles to a Buckeye Honey Locust and ash on the north side of a small branch in a line of Stewarts 500 acre survey thence with the said line (N) 69 poles to a gum and two white Oaks on the north side of a ridge in a line said to be Rays thence with said line S 24 (deg) West 260 poles to the Beginning with its appurtenances To Have and to hold the said tract or parcel of land with its appurtenances to the said David Cleaver and his heirs forever. In Witness whereof the said James Garrard Esquire Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky hath hereunto set his Hand and caused the

seal of the Commonwealth to be affixed at Frankfort on the Third day of January in the year
of our lord one Thousand seven hundred ninety seven and of the Commonwealth the fifth.
Signed by James Garrard. L.S. By the Governor, Harry Toulmin

This tract appears to have been the homestead where David and Letitia lived, as she was
granted her dower's rights of 68 acres in October, 1829, and their son, Samuel Griffith
Cleaver, purchased the balance of 137 acres. A review of the purchasers at David's estate
sale in 1829 provides the names of some of their neighbors (see below).

In 1795 David and Letitia's second child, Hannah D., was born and was probably named
for David's mother, Hannah Cleaver. She married Thomas Phillips, brother to Edmund, in
1813 (Washington County Book 1:123). Nathan H. Hall officiated, and Hannah and Thomas
later moved to southern Hardin County where they are both buried in a family cemetery
about two miles east of Millerstown and just north of the Hart County line.

David was taxed for his 205 acres on the waters of the Rolling Fork and for 14 head
of cattle on the 1796 Washington County tax lists.

It is believed that Isaac was David and Letitia's eldest son and that he was born
after Elizabeth and Hannah. Very little is known about Isaac, including the person for
whom he was named. The birthdates for David's other children and the 1810 census suggest
that Isaac was probably born before 1800 as he was an adult in 1829 when David's estate
was settled. A slave boy named Thomas was bequeathed to Isaac in his father's will but
was purchased by his brother, Stephen D., at the estate sale. David Cleaver, Jr.'s final
settlement to the heirs as executor of his father's estate has not been found in
Washington County, and it may have been closed in Marion County after it was formed.

In January of 1797 David made a trip to Washington County, Pennsylvania, where he
sold his wife's share of the land which she inherited from her father, Samuel Griffith, to
her brother-in-law (Deed Book 1-T, p.29-30). Letitia's only brother, Samuel, had
received 2/5's or 160 acres of his father's farm, while each of the three daughters
received 1/5 or 80 acres. The farm was purchased by Eli Allen who had married Sarah
Griffith, one of the heirs.

This indenture made & concluded this 9th day of January 1797 by & between David Clever of the
one part and Eli Allen of the other part these witnesseth that the said David Clever hath
bargained and sold unto the said Eli Allen all the one fifth part of that tract of land
laying and being in Washington County & state of Pennsylvania on the waters of Cross Creek &
Shirtee (containing four hundred acres) which one fifth is eighty acres which sd. Clever got
or () by his wife Lettisha Griffith being one of the Heirs of Samuel Griffith deceased. Know
ye that in consideration of the sum of twenty-eight pounds eighteen shillings & nine pence
good and lawfull money of Pennsylvania hath bargained & sold unto the sd. Eli Allen All my
part of the above described tract of land being eighty acres together with all the
appurtenances thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining. To have and to hold the sd.
eighty acres to him his heirs & assigns forever against me my heirs & assigns forever & by
these presents hath bargained sold released? given granted and conveyed the same for my heirs
& to the sd. Eli Allen the receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge and therewith am fully
satisfied. As witness my hand & seal the day and year above written. Signed by David
Cleaver and delivered in presents of John Ennis, Elizabeth (her mark) Ennis
Received the day and year above written twenty eight pounds eighteen & nine pence in full for
the above land and as witness my hand this 9th day of January 1797. Signed/David Cleaver

Washington County (PA) Sst. Before me one of the Justices of the peace in and for said County
personally appeared David Cleaver and did acknowledge the foregoing indenture to be the act &
deed of him the sd. David Cleaver and desire the same to be recorded as such. Given under my
hand and seal this 30th day of January 1797. Signed/Henry Gregg
Recorded and compared with original February 25th 1805. Compared with original the 10th May
A.D. 1808 by Isaac Kerr Recorder.

Letitia's brother, Samuel, had needed his portion of his father's land to Eli Allen on November 17, 1795. The deed has been included because of the information which it contains.

This indenture made and concluded this seventh day of November one thousand seven hundred and ninety five between Samuel Griffith of the one part and Eli Allen of the part... Witnesseth that the said Samuel Griffith hath bargained and sold unto the said Eli Allen his Heirs or Assigns one hundred and sixty acres of land being my part of the four hundred acres of land that belonged to my Father Samuel Griffith, deceased, that was laid off by Robert Downing, the one hundred and sixty acres is the two fifths of the said Four hundred acres situate & laying in Washington County & State of Pennsylvania on the waters of Shirtee and Cross creek which I hereby bargain & sell unto the said Eli Allen his heirs and assigns forever for the consideration of fifty seven pounds ten shillings current money of Pennsylvania to me in hand well and truly paid by the sd. Eli Allen the receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge and therewith am fully and for sd. consideration doth given grant and bargain sell and convey by these presents The above one hundred & sixty acres of land above described clear of any incumbrances whatever or however (mains royal? only excepted for the use of the state) and do hereby warrant and defend the sd land & every part thereof unto the sd. Eli Allen his Heirs and assigns forever As witness my hand & seal and desires the above to be recorded my act and Deed the day and year above written. N. B. The warrant granted to Eli Allen in trust for the minor heirs of Samuel Griffith deceased the 11th day of October 1787 is for the above land. Signed/Samuel Griffith

Signed sealed and delivered in the presents of Robert Laughlin, Jeremiah Cook Received Fifty seven pounds ten shillings in full being the amount of the within purchase money as witness my hand this eventeenth day of November 1795. Signed/Samuel Griffith. Test Robert Laughlin, Jeremiah Cook

Washington County (PA) to wit. Personally came before me Joseph Brown one of the Justices of the peace in and for said County Samuel Griffith the conveyer of the within mentioned tract of land and acknowledged the within instrument of writing to be his act and Deed and desired the same to be recorded as such. Acknowledged before me this 17th day of the 11th month 1795 Signed/Joseph Brown Recorded and compared with the original February 25th 1805 Signed/John Israel Recorder

A related deed was found which this writer has been unable to reconcile. It appears that David Cleaver sold the eighty acres which was Letitia's sister, Elizabeth's share of the estate to Eli Allen on January 25, 1797. However, the records state that Elizabeth, step-daughter of Francis Simbrell, married Moses Harrell in Nelson County in 1790, and she was given as Elizabeth Griffith in the deed below:

This indenture maid (sic) & concluded this twenty fifth day of January seventeen hundred and ninety seven by and between David Clever (sic) of Washington County and State of Kentucky and Elizabeth Griffith of the one part and Eli Allen of Fayette County and state of Pennsylvania of the other part these Witnesseth that the said David Clever and Elizabeth Griffith hath bargained and sold unto the said Eli Allen his Heirs and Assigns all the one fifth part of four hundred acres of land laying in Washington County & State of Pennsylvania which one fifth part is eighty acres. Now know ye that in consideration of the sum of twenty eight pounds eighteen shillings and nine pence good and lawfull (sic) money of Pennsylvania to us in hand well and truly paid by the said Eli Allen the receipt whereof we do hereby acknowledge and therewith am fully satisfied hath bargained and sold & by these presents doth give grant bargain and sell all the above described piece or parcel of land containing eighty acres Together with all and singular the appurtenances thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining unto the said Eli Allen his Heirs and Assigns forever said Eli Allen to pay the arrears? of purchase money into the land office for the state of Pennsylvania. In witness

whereof the said David Cleaver by virtue of a Letter of Attorney dated October the seventeenth day in the year 1796 hath to this presents set the hands and affixed the seals of the said Elizabeth Griffith and himself the party first above named the day and year above written. Signed/David Cleaver and Elizabeth Griffith
Signed sealed and delivered in presence of Robert Laughlin? and George Harper

Received the twenty fifth day of January 1797 twenty eight pounds eighteen shillings & nine pence in full of the above consideration money we say rcd by us. Signed/David Cleaver, Elizabeth Griffith

Washington County (PA) Sst. Before me the subscriber one of the Commonwealths Justices of the peace in & for said County personally appeared the above David Cleaver and did acknowledge the foregoing indenture to be the act and deed of the above Elizabeth Griffith and his own the sd. David Cleaver and desires the same to be recorded as such. Given under my hand & seal this 30th day of January seven hundred and ninety seven 1797. Signed/Henry Gregg.
Recorded and compared with the original February 25th 1805. Signed/John Israel Recorder

It may be that Elizabeth Griffith Harrell was a widow by 1797 and used her maiden name for the deed. It is noted that she gave Power of Attorney to David to sell the land and that no relationship was established in the deed. Beyond confirmation of lineage, this researcher feels the significance of these deeds is that David made at least one trip, if not several trips, to Pennsylvania in the 1790's. Those trips may have been made in conjunction with trading or military service.

Another mystery concerning Elizabeth Griffith arises with her marriage to William Wells in Washington County, Kentucky, on April 7, 1798 (Book 1:24). David Cleaver co-signed the bond, and the ceremony was conducted by Thos. Kyle, an early Methodist minister. As David Cleaver, Jr., named a son William Wells Cleaver, a relationship is probable.

In February, 1799, Austin Hubbard deeded 78 acres of land in Washington County, Kentucky, to David Cleaver adjoining his 205 acres (Nelson County Deed Book 7:418-419):

This Indenture made this thirteenth day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety nine between Austin Hubbard of the County of Nelson and State of Kentucky of the one part and David Cleaver of the County of Washington and State aforesaid of the other part witnesseth, that for and in consideration of the sum of fifteen pounds, to him in hand paid the receipt whereof he doth hereby acknowledge have granted, bargained & sold & by these presents do grant bargain & sell to the above named David Cleaver a certain tract or parcel of Land containing seventy eight acres more or less lying and being in Washington County & bounded as follows to wit, Beginning at a white oak ash & dogwood the beginning corner of a Survey of the said Cleavers two hundred & five acres thence south seventy seven degrees east with the line of Cleaver's survey aforesaid one hundred & eight poles to the intersection of the said Cleavers with the above Hubbards fifteen hundred acre survey to a hickory, thence north two hundred & forty eight poles to a spott? at another intersection of said Survey thence south twenty four degrees west two hundred and forty eight poles to the beginning, To have & to hold the said tract or parcel of land with all its appurtenances to the said David Cleaver & his heirs forever And the above bound Austin Hubbard doth bind himself & heirs to warrant & defend the same from him or heirs to David Cleaver & his heirs forever, In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand & affixed my seal the year & day above written, but be it understood that if the lands as mentioned aforesaid should be taken by any legal claims from the said Cleaver then said Hubbard is to return the money mentioned in the consideration with Interest from this date as before mentioned. Signed/A. Hubbard
Present: Peter (James/Jones?), Jno. Crozier, John Graham

Bardstown District Sct. To all whom it may concern, I Benjamin Grayson, Clerk of the Court for the district aforesaid, do hereby certify that on the day of the date herein this Indenture was acknowledged before me by Austin Hubbard party thereto to be his act & deed & that I have recorded the same in my Office as required by the laws of this State. Witness my hand this 13th day of February 1799.

To date, the disposition of this land has not been found in the records. Deeds are normally recorded in the state where the land is located. The deed says that the land was in Washington County, but it was recorded in Nelson County (i.e., Bardstown). It may have become part of a later land dispute, and Hubbard may have returned the money with interest as stipulated in the deed. As the deed says the land adjoined David's farm of 205 acres, it was probably in present Marion County. No mention of the farm was made in the Washington County estate papers for David, Sr.

In 1800 Susan A. Cleaver was born to David and Letitia. She would marry James Handley, son of Alexander Handley and Sarah McElroy, on October 7, 1816, in Washington County and eventually move to Platte County, Missouri, where both died. Alexander Handley, the father of James, was the son of James Handley who died in 1817 in Washington County. Sarah McElroy was the daughter of Samuel McElroy and Mary Irvine, all of whom were early pioneers in Marion and Washington counties.

From 1801 to 1813 David's name appeared many times in the minutes of the 4th Regiment of the Kentucky militia in Washington County (see Pioneer History of Washington County). According to Cliff in Corn Stalk Militia of Kentucky 1792-1811, David was commissioned as Captain on February 10, 1801. On May 29, 1801, he presided at court martial which was held at Benjamin Gibbs' house, and on July 4, 1801, he was present at a court martial in Springfield. In December, 1801, David attended court martial in Springfield at the house of Geo. McCay (McKay?) and served on the board of officers. In May, 1802, David's name appeared with those who attended court martial at Col. Benjamin Gibbs' house again; and in December, 1802, he attended court martial and board meeting held at Benjamin Phillips' house.

David was commissioned as Major on December 9, 1803, and his old company was divided into two companies, the division line "to begin at the mouth of Salt Lick and running up the Rolling Fork such a course as will leave John S. Ray, Esq., on the north side of the line, thence up the fork such a course as will leave Chas. Buckman on the north side of the line, thence up the fork to the Cedar Licks." Samuel Ray was appointed Captain in the room (place) of Captain Cleaver promoted.

In 1803 Mary "Polly" Cleaver was born to David and Letitia. She married Thomas Doran in 1821 in Washington County (Book 1:170) with her brother, Stephen (D.) co-signing the bond. From the records it appears that Mary and Thomas Doran moved to Hart County.

On November 14, 1804, David Cleaver, Jr., was born. He married Lucy Kirk, daughter of James Kirk and (Anne Horton?), in 1824 (Wash. Co. 1:236 and 3:10) with Whitehead officiating and lived in Marion County for the remainder of his life where he reared a large family.

David must have made frequent trips home to visit his parents, especially in their later years, which was confirmed by Letitia in a deposition in 1845. His father wrote his will in August, 1805, and that November David Cleaver and Cornelius King witnessed a note from William Cousens (sic) and Stephen Smith to William Cleaver, Sr., for 12 pounds 19 shillings 6 pence. The note had not been paid in full at the time his father's estate was in the process of being settled, and Stephen Cleaver, as executor, sued for recovery. David was one of the purchasers at his father's estate sale in Nelson County on January 1/2, 1808. He bought a variety of items including a whet stone, an iron wedge and currying knife, some hand towels, and two items which must have had great sentimental value for David - a loom which was probably used by his mother to weave the family's clothing when he was a boy, and a set of surveying instruments which his father may have

used in both Virginia and Kentucky. David's son, Samuel Griffith Cleaver, would buy the surveying instruments at David's estate sale in 1829.

On January 8, 1807, Samuel Griffith Cleaver was born to David and Letitia and was named after his maternal grandfather. He would marry Elizabeth Phillips (daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth Phillips) in 1827 in Washington County (Book 2:67). Her brother, James, co-signed the bond. Samuel Griffith and Elizabeth Cleaver moved to southern Hardin County. Theirs was the third marriage between the children of David and Letitia Cleaver and the Phillips family of Station Run. John Phillips, Thomas Phillips, and Benjamin Phillips, all of whom are called "Sr." in the records to avoid confusion with the second generation, settled Phillips' Station in the spring of 1782. David Cleaver's daughters Elizabeth and Hannah married sons of the above Benjamin Phillips, Sr. Samuel Griffith Cleaver married the daughter of Benjamin Phillips (nephew of Benjamin, Sr., and son of John, Sr.) and wife Elizabeth Phillips (daughter of Thomas, Sr.). The Phillips family has been researched by this writer and is being published as The Phillips Family of Station Run and Hardin's Creek, Washington County, Kentucky. Both the Cleaver and Phillips families arrived at the Falls in 1779.

The year 1809 was a busy one for David Cleaver. He, John Handley, and Jereboam Beauchamp inventoried the estate of John Perry, deceased, in Washington County in January. David Cleaver and Nicholas Ray were recommended as Justices of the Peace for the southwest part of Washington County replacing John S. Ray that year (Order Book B:72); David was promoted to the rank of Colonel Commandant in the 4th Regiment (Clift); and he took his oath as Justice of Peace in October (Order Book B:98).

David's third son, Stephen D., was born on April 19, 1809, and was probably named for David's brother. Stephen later married Lucy A. Murray, daughter of (Richard? deceased) and Lucy Murray in 1829 in Green County (Bond Book B) with Joseph Crouch co-signing. It is thought that Stephen D. and Lucy moved to Hart County. Both are buried in the old Presbyterian cemetery in Millerstown which is on the Nolin River in Grayson County.

On October 17, 1809, David purchased his father's homestead of 241 acres from Stephen Cleaver, his brother and executor of William's estate, for \$1425.00 (Nelson County Deed Book 6:880-881). The deed described the farm as being in the bottom of a branch known as Richey's Run, a branch of the Beech Fork, and about one hundred yards above Rhodes "meddow" fence, thence south, north, and east to Sugar Camp Run. David probably never lived on the homestead.

On January 1, 1810, Robert Crouch and Matthew Walton bonded themselves to Jesse Head, Samuel Lowe, John Handley, Coleman Brown, Samuel Overton, Jacob Seay, George Edelin, Arthur E. Gibbins, John Hungate, Travis Coppage, Andrew Cunningham, Leonard Hamilton, and David Cleaver, all Justices of the Peace in and for the County of Washington, in the penal sum of \$5,820.00 for the building of a new jail in Springfield. That year the federal census showed David with three males under 10 years of age (David Jr., Samuel Griffith, and Stephen D.), one male 10-16 (Isaac?), two females under 10 (Sarah and Mary "Polly"?), and two females 10-16 (Elizabeth and Hannah?). Both David and Letitia were given between 26 and 45 (i.e., born between 1765 and 1784). They were, in fact, 42 and 34 years old respectively and in the prime of their lives. With eight children, a farm, and responsibilities as both a Justice of the Peace and Colonel in the militia, David must have led an interesting life. By the time that the next census would be taken in 1820, two of their daughters would have married and they would have added the last three children to their family.

In June, 1811, David, with his brother Benjamin and William R. Hynes, approved Stephen Cleaver's executor account for the settlement of his father's estate in Nelson County. David was paid 150 pounds, 80 pounds of which was his share and 60 pounds for his brother James' share. Although little is known about James (who married Benjamin Lynn's niece, Hannah), he must have kept in touch with David, and he was recorded as having received credit for a tour of duty in the "light horse" (mounted infantry?) against the Chicamauga Indians in 1791 according to the Washington County militia minutes. Another

possibility is that James had assigned his interest in his father's estate to David for some reason.

Interesting bits of information are found in the militia minutes, including the fact that it was decided that the men's uniforms would be blue with white trim. In November, 1811, Col. Cleaver was paid \$2.00 for "carrying orders" and \$5.00 for furnishing a drum. There was apparently a disagreement between David Cleaver and Jereboam Beauchamp during the War of 1812 regarding calling out the militia, which David refused to do because he had not been issued orders. (For further information, see Pioneer History of Washington County.) It is unknown if David served in the War of 1812 or not. Whatever disagreement he and Beauchamp had, it was resolved by 1829 as Beauchamp was one of the purchasers at David's estate sale.

One of the estates which David Cleaver appraised in Washington County was that of William Withrow, deceased, with Benjamin Ray, and Richard Thompson in 1812 (Will Book B:319-320).

Letitia Cleaver was born to David and Letitia on March 12, 1812, and was obviously named for her mother. She would marry Alexander Handley (son of Alexander, Sr., and brother to James who married her sister, Sarah) on August 8, 1829, with her brother, Stephen D., co-signing the bond. Marcus Lindsey performed the ceremony. Letitia's marriage must have taken place shortly before or after her father's death. Letitia and Alexander moved to Hardin/Hart County line, and both are buried in the old Cleaver family cemetery west of Upton as are many other members of this family.

Little is known about David and Letitia's two youngest children who were both underage when David died. Hiram chose James Handley as his guardian on September 28, 1829, with Daniel Everhart and Josiah Knott providing security in the amount of \$2000. David Cleaver, Jr., was appointed guardian to Charlotte on the same date with David Everhart and Josiah Knott as security. One source states that Charlotte married Steven Harding, son of John C. Harding and Susan Fisher (or _____ Taylor), but this writer has not been able to verify the marriage. Both appear to have remained in Marion County.

In 1819-1820 John Lancaster, David Cleaver, Benedict Downs, and Francis Ray inventoried the estate of Joseph Ray, deceased, in Washington County (Book C:270). The 1820 federal census index indicated that Davey (sic) Cleaver was in 042 Twp L. David was Sheriff of Washington County during 1821-1822, but it is unknown if he served prior to or after those dates.

The records for David between the years 1820-1830 are scant beyond what has already been given. He, Jereboam Beauchamp, and Hezekiah Ray witnessed the will of Terrance Flanagan on January 10, 1822. The last reference to David in Washington County, Kentucky, Wills 1792-1853 by Sanders was his name as one of the witnesses to William Hughes, Sr.'s will on February 27, 1823, with John Thompson and Elizabeth Flanagan being the other two witnesses.

On July 2, 1829, David wrote his will, and it was recorded in the Washington County courthouse on September 28th of that year, suggesting that he died sometime during the summer (Will Book D:427). It is given here as abstracted from the original.

In the name of God Amen I David Cleaver of the County of Washington and State of Kentucky being of sound mind and disposing memory but laboring under bodily infirmity and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die do make and ordain this my last will and testament as follows, to wit, first I recommend my soul to the God who gave it and my mortal remains to the earth whence it came to be buried in a decent Christian like manner, Secondly Betsey Phillips, Hannah Phillips, Sally Handley, Polly Doran, my sons David Cleaver and Samuel Cleaver to each of whom I consider I have given five hundred dollars which I consider is their portion untill each of my other children shall have gotten that sum in (resources)...I give and bequeath to my son Stephen Cleaver a negro boy named Frank... I give and bequeath to my son Isaac Cleaver my negro boy named Thomas... I give and bequeath to my daughter Letitia Cleaver a negro girl named Maria... I give and bequeath to my son Hiram Cleaver a negro boy

named Isaac... I give and bequeath to my daughter Charlotte Cleaver a negro girl named Mary... I give and bequeath to my beloved wife Letitia (sic) Cleaver one third part of the farm on which I now live including the mansion (sic) house also my negro (man) Walter, Susannah, Milly, Hannah and Rose during her natural life time - and it is my will and wish that the ballance of my estate shall be sold by my Executors and after my five children towit Stephen, Isaac, Letitia, Hiram and Charlotte are made equal with my other children by adding to their several portions such sums as will make to each of them five hundred dollars - the ballance shall be equally divided among all my children - and lastly I nominate and appoint my son David Cleaver my Executor to this my last will and testament. Signed/David Cleaver, July 2, 1829

Signed, sealed and delivered in presence of Jos. P. Knott, Alexander Handley, James Handley

At a county court began and held for Washington County at the Court house in Springfield on Monday the 28th day of September 1829 this last will and testament of David Cleaver deceased was exhibited in court and proved by the oath of Joseph P. Knott a subscribing witness thereto and ordered to be recorded which is accordingly done in Will Book D page 427.
Atteste/John Hughes Jr. CWC

It is assumed that Alexander and James Handley were his sons-in-law and that Joseph P. Knott (who married Maria J. McElroy and was related to the Handleys through Alexander's and James' mother) was a friend. Joseph P. Knott was the son of Thomas P. Knott and Surveyor of Marion County. Joseph's son, J. Proctor Knott 1830-1911 was the Governor of Kentucky.

David was approximately sixty-one years old when he died. His widow, Letitia, would live another twenty-seven years. His place of burial is unknown. On October 2, 1829, commissioners Thomas P. Knott, David Everhart, Samuel Ray, and Thomas Becket marked off Letitia's 68 acres which was her share of the home farm (Will Book D:459).

Francis Ray, Hezekiah Ray, and Samuel T. Ray made an inventory and appraisal of the personal estate of David Cleaver, and the estate sale was held on October 5, 1829. Over sixty buyers were listed including his widow Letitia, sons Stephen D. (whose purchases included a desk and two history books), Samuel G. (who bought 137 acres and a set of surveying instruments), and David, Jr., and sons-in-law James Handley, Alexander Handley, and Thomas Doran. Henry Cambron purchased one looking glass. Jesse Garland bought a tea board and two brass candlesticks. Two clocks, twelve horses, ten head of cattle, pigs, sheep, three plows, four saddles, three beds, a dropleaf table, seven parcels of books, and a pair of spectacles were among the items on the list. William Sutton got one parcel of law books for \$1.75, and James Buckman got three historical books for \$1.75. Letitia, the widow, purchased a large Kettle and hooks, a small pot, oven and lid, three pails, a churn and fire shovel, thirteen geese, and two cows.

Other purchasers at the sale were George Abell, Philip Alvey, Bartholomew Barns, William Beard, Hillary Beard?, Jereboam Beauchamp, Nathaniel Bickett, Samuel Bickett, Nicholas Bowman, James Buckman, Henry Cambron, Thomas Carter, Allen? Casky, Silvester Cissell, Edward H. Compton, Henry Cooper, Walter Coulard?, Alexander Craven, John Craven, McKensie Craven, Benedict Downs, Walter Everhart, John Fenwick, John French, Elijah E. Haggard, George Hardisty, John Hughes, Walter Jarboe, Dickson Kirk, James Kirk, Travis Kirk, George C. Mattingly, Samuel McClain, Thomas McDavitt, James McKensie, John C. McKensie, David Miller, Lewis Miller, James Mollowhon, Joseph Monark, Richard Parret, William Parret, Hillary Payne, Hilton? Payne, Samuel Philips, Thomas Ray, James Sandow?, Thomas Spalding, William Sutton, Hamilton Thomas, Charles Thompson, George Thompson, James Thompson, Zachariah Tucker, and Sandy (or Handy) Williams.

David Cleaver, Jr., produced his executor's account in Washington County on June 18, 1831, including receipts to the following people: George Abell, Henry Beckett, John Beckett, Anthony Beckett, (Roger?) Book, C. J. Buckman, Isaac Cleaver, Stephen Cleaver, Thomas Doran (for crying sale), B. Edlen, S. Elder & Spalding, Daniel Everhart, G.

Hardisty, James Hughes, John Hughes, John Hughes Jr., Thomas B. Hughes, (Dan'l?) Jennings, J. M. Kinsey, Thomas P. Knott, Wm. McAfee, James P. McElroy, Basil Masons, Jos. B. May, Philips & Sparrow, Francis Ray, Hezekiah Ray, N. & F. Ray, Philip N. Ray (as agent for Isaac Cleaver), R. W. Ray, Samuel Ray, Samuel T. Ray, William Robertson, Beall Robertson & Head (for settlement), Benjamin Sapp, James Schooling, Henry Shuck, Michael Shuck, Thomas Stanfield, J. Swaggert, and Trustees of Presbyterian meeting house. The account was approved by the commissioners (M. D. McElroy, William M. Beall, and Thomas Read) on October 22, 1832 (Book E:363-365).

Thus end the records for David Cleaver, Sr., but the records say a great deal about his life. He was a product of the frontier, first in Virginia and then in Kentucky. He apparently enjoyed reading, but he also appears to have been a very pragmatic, no-nonsense type of person. He spent most of his adult life in public service - the militia, as Justice of the Peace, and as Sheriff - so community was also important to him. He was affiliated with the Presbyterian Church, but he was asked to appraise estates of his Catholic neighbors. The records suggest that he cared deeply for his parents and his family, and that he had many friends. His will showed no favoritism among his children, and they in return used his name frequently in future generations.

Letitia never remarried. It is believed that she continued to live on the home place in Marion County for several years. Her name was still on the Marion County census in 1840 as head of a household, and she was living in Marion County in October, 1845, when she gave a deposition to support her niece, Mary Sallee's application for her father, Abraham Hornbeck's pension for Revolutionary War pension as his only living child. Probably when age and health prevented her from living alone, Letitia moved to Hart County to live with one of her children and where she was reported to have died on June 1, 1856. Letitia is buried in the old Cleaver cemetery west of Upton in Hardin County.

David's place of burial has not been found. However, this writer has visited the Cleaver cemetery and the Phillips (i.e., Hannah D. Cleaver Phillips) family cemetery in southern Hardin County and has drawn some conclusions based on those cemeteries and other information. Although it is difficult to generalize family traits from records, it seems that the Cleavers were very private people. In each of their cemeteries, only family members and spouses were buried within the iron or rock fences with neighbors outside the fenced area. Both cemeteries have readable stones, including Letitia Griffith Cleaver's, but both are extremely overgrown. Once inside the fences, one has the feeling of stepping back in time and, for a brief moment, becoming a part of the wilderness where they lived and died, a wilderness which could be demanding and lonely, but always full of promise.

THE CLEAVER FAMILY

Submitted by William A. Owens, South Boulevard, Nyack, New York 10960.

Stephen Cleaver was born in Virginia May 20, 1766, and lived an active life for eighty years. Only a bare and incomplete outline of his achievements can be given on this page.

Places of residence:

Virginia. Exact locations unknown.

West Virginia. Tygart's Valley. Now Elkins.

Kentucky. Nelson County, near Bardstown. Hardin County (1000 acres on Long Fall Creek). Ohio County (apparently near Barrett's Ferry on Rough River).

Missouri. On Spencer Creek near Frankfort. Stone house built in 1843 still standing.

Marriages:

Rebecca Smith, daughter of Lawrence, Nelson County, April 13, 1795.

Children: William, Charlotte, Henry, Thomas, Jacob.

Elenor Tapley, Ohio County, April 10, 1810.

Children: Rebecca, Ellender (Ellen).

Mary Hays, Ralls County, Missouri, March 7, 1839. No children.

Will. dated September 20, 1840. To Mary Hays Cleaver he left one third of all his estate. Widow and heirs of son Jacob he judged to have received already their full share. The remainder was to be equally divided among his children William, Henry, Charlotte Jones, Ellender Cobbs and Rebeckah Glascock.

Military:

1790. private, Kentucky Mounted Volunteers.

1791. ensign in Colonel Oldham's Regiment at St. Clair's defeat.

1792. lieutenant, Second Regiment, Kentucky Militia.

1795. lieutenant under General Wayne at battle of Fallen Timbers.

1797. major, Kentucky Militia.

1808. brigadier general, Kentucky Militia

1816. major general, Kentucky Militia

(military record not to be confused with that of his nephew Stephen or Stephen D. Cleaver).

Political:

1796. appointed justice of the peace, Hardin County.

1798. appointed justice of the peace, Ohio County (newly formed from Hardin County).

1799. appointed county surveyor, Ohio County.

1800. appointed justice, Court of Quarter Sessions.

1806. appointed Circuit Court Judge.

1818. appointed surveyor to lay out town of Frankfort, Missouri.

1819. appointed Pike County delegate to Missouri constitutional convention.

Stephen Cleaver died May 30, 1846, and was buried in family graveyard. Remains were reburied in Frankfort Cemetery in 1961. In 1966 his grave marker lay in a pigpen near his homestead, the cemetery having been bulldozed away.

EARLY FILES

130 years ago February 12, 1879

Personal pointers

Mr. W.S. Knott left last Friday for Pine Hill to take charge of and sell a coal mine there under an order from the Marion Circuit Court. He will be absent about a month... Prof. L.A. Connella left last Thursday for Franklin, La., where he will take charge of a newspaper, The Enterprise... Mr. Len Abell, of this office, has been confined to his room for a week past by indisposition... Mr. D.M. McCargar left yesterday for a visit to Edinburg, Ind. Mrs. T.F. Bruce left yesterday for Indianapolis, Ind.

Local pencilings

Messrs. Edmonds & Bro. have removed their stock of goods to the house heretofore occupied by Messrs. J.L. & W.F. Edmonds, and the latter have taken possession of the house vacated by Messrs. Edmonds & Bro... Dr. J.F. Cleaver, late of Gravel Switch, has located at Lebanon for the practice of his profession. In a practice of several years Dr. C. has made a good reputation as a well informed and successful physician. His office will be at the drug store of Messrs. Edelen & Bruce... Mr. George Veatch, of Indianapolis, has rented the back portion of the shop of Mr. A.W. England, including the machinery, and will soon take possession of it for the purpose of carrying on the business of a carpenter, stair-builder, etc. The lease is for one year, with the privilege of five, the price for the first being \$300.

Death of Father Hutchins

(From the Loretto correspondent)- Died February 7, 1879, at Loretto Academy, Rev. John B. Hutchins, in the 76th year of his age. He was at one time President

of St. Joseph's College, at Bardstown, and that institution was never more flourishing than when under his administration. At another time he took St. Mary's College, when it had well nigh lost its prestige, and made a flourishing school of it.

Buying in Chicago

Mrs. W.H. Evans left Friday for Chicago to purchase her spring stock of goods. Enroute, she visited her daughters, Misses Irene and Josephine Evans, who are attending school in Lexington.

75 years ago February 9, 1934

New court house?

A large group of Lebanon and Marion County citizens were present at a mass meeting held Saturday afternoon at the Court House for the purpose of gauging public sentiment regarding construction of a new court house. By far the majority of those who expressed opinions believe it would be wise to erect a new building and raise needed funds by an additional tax of 15 to 20 cents. Speakers included Dr. G.G. Thornton, S.M. Miller, Basil P. Cooper, P.F. Kennedy, S.W. Raley, J.T. Avritt, James Mudd, County Attorney Frank L. Chelf and F.E. Hyyardesty. Mrs. T.F. Cleaver, spokesman for a group of men present, advocated repairing the present building in an order that "the frame of architecture might be preserved."

Chautauqua land sold

The property on the Bradfordsville Highway belonging to Mrs. Mattie Knott, Lebanon, and used for many years as a Chautauqua ground, was sold this week to John P. Hundley of Irvine, a retired railroad employee. It is his intention to build a

new residence on the 11 1/2-acre tract next summer. The land was deeded by the late Governor J. Proctor Knott to the Proctor Knott Chautauqua Association for as long as it was used for the programs. Afterward, it was to revert to the heirs. The Chautauqua programs were discontinued in 1932.

Obituaries

Mrs. Mary E. McElroy Lyly, 84, wife of R.B. Lyle, died Saturday at her home on the Proctor Knott Avenue. She and her husband observed their 60th wedding anniversary last November... John Andrew Grundy, 61, died unexpectedly yesterday morning at his home on the Bradfordsville Highway after a brief illness... Miss Mary Josephine Rice, 25, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nick Rice, died.

"Bless His Little Heart," a three-act comedy, was presented at Lebanon High School auditorium.

65 years ago February 11, 1944

On the home front

A collection of waste paper, magazines and cartons is to be made here Monday. City trucks will be used and high school boys will help with the collection. The former Greer Garage on South Proctor Knott Avenue is being used as a salvage depot. More than 2,000 pounds of waste paper have been brought in since the center was opened early this week... Shoe rationing, inaugurated last February, was a year old Monday. According to the O.P.A., it will continue the same, about two pairs of his shoes per person, per year, in 1944... The problem of children's shoes has been solved by permitting local rationing boards to issue a special stamp for anyone not having two pairs of wearable shoes.

EDUCATION

SCHOOL MENUS