

Dant,

March 30, 1987

Marion County, Ky. Library

Dear Librarian,

Would you have records of the cemeteries in Marion county? If so would you have JOHN BAPTIST DANT AND ELIZABETH Shircliff Dant his wife listed as to where buried and dates. If so would you make a copy for me? Enclosed 2.00 and a SASE. I think they are buried at Holy Cross or Holy Name of Mary cemeteries. Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Catherine Coons*

Mrs William H. Coons  
~~\_\_\_\_\_~~

May 4, 1989

Dear Mrs. Coons:

I apologize for taking so long answering your letter. I did not find any Dants listed on Holy Cross cemetery records. I am enclosing copies from a book on Holy Name of Mary cemetery at Calvary, Ky. by Gerald Thompson entitled "Kentucky Catholic Pioneers, Volume I, The Rolling Fork Settlement". There is a possibility Gerald may have some material on the Dant family. His address is Gerald Thompson, P.O. Box 7, St. Mary, Ky. 40063.

I am sorry I could not find what you requested.

Sincerely,

*Mary*

Mary Parrott

pg. 30-31

of three sons and two daughters born to James A. and Elizabeth (Lewis) Curry. James A. Curry was born in Harrodsburg, Ky., January 23, 1829. He attended the schools of the town, but is principally self-educated. He learned the tailor's trade, but in 1855 entered the drug business at Harrodsburg. In 1878 he located in Danville, Ky., and in 1883 he moved to Lexington, Ky., to become a member of the wholesale grocery firm of Curry, Howard & Murray. He is a son of James Curry, who was born in Mercer County, Ky., March 25, 1797, and was a carpenter by trade. He married Catherine Stagg, and to them were born and reared five sons and one daughter. He was a soldier of 1812, and participated in the battle of New Orleans; his parents came from Virginia, and were among the early settlers of Mercer County. He died at his work bench, plane in hand, December 22, 1877. Catherine Stagg was born in Pennsylvania, October 10, 1794; died at Harrodsburg, Ky., November 23, 1871. The mother of Samuel L. was a daughter of Thomas P. and Arethusa (Yantis) Lewis, natives of Kentucky, and parents of three children, all daughters. Samuel L. Curry was reared in Harrodsburg, educated at Centre College, Danville, graduated in the class of 1878 as A. B. He was immediately taken into the firm of J. A. Curry & Sons, and continued in the drug business until the dissolution of the firm in January, 1883. From Danville he went to Louisville, Ky., and, as member of firm of Curry & Dearing, engaged in the book and stationery business. His health failing he sold his interest in March, 1885, and a short while thereafter accepted a position with Curry, Howard & Murray, at Lexington, which he held until his death July 7, 1886. His life was one of singular purity; his every action directed by the nicest sense of honor. His death was peculiarly distressing. Overcome with heat while bathing, he went down within a few feet of his brother, who thought him only diving, and his body was not recovered until after two hours of diligent search.

J. W. DANT was born May 7, 1820, in Washington (now Marion) County, and is the oldest of four sons and four daughters born to John B. and Mary J. (Smith) Dant, who were born in what is now Marion County. John B. Dant was a farmer, died December, 1881, aged eighty-two years, and was a son of Joseph Dant, who married Malinda Shirkles and came from Maryland and settled near Loretto at an early day and engaged extensively in farming, owning a large family

of slaves. He was a son of John B. Dant, who came from England and settled in Maryland; from thence migrated to Kentucky, where he remained till death. He died in 1833. Mrs. Mary J. Dant was a daughter of Samuel Smith, who came from Maryland in the early settling of Kentucky and became a substantial farmer of Washington County. J. W. Dant was reared on a farm, and received his early education by his early application till after twenty years of age. When twenty-two he commenced blacksmithing, at which he worked for fourteen years. He was married February 12, 1849, to Catherine Ballard, daughter of William P. and Mary (Greenwell) Ballard, natives respectively of Nelson and Marion Counties. William P. Ballard was born in January, 1810, and is still living; he is a farmer and cutter, and served as justice for twenty-five years. His first wife was a Miss Mary Greenwell, his second wife was Mrs. Tucker, nee Ford. Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Dant have had born to them ten children: Joseph Bernard, Thomas S., John P., James R., William W., Mary J., Francis L., Ellen S., George W. and Anna C. Mr. Dant located where he now resides in 1860 on 196 acres of land, which he has improved. He is now owner of 100 acres at Dant Station and two farms near Loretto of 320 acres. He has followed distilling since 1836 more or less, and now owns a distillery at Dant Station with a capacity of 220 bushels. Before he became of age he had been hired out for nine years, and has accumulated his property by industry and good management, hence he deserves much credit. In politics he is a Democrat, and cast his first presidential vote for James K. Polk. Mr. and Mrs. Dant are members of the Roman Catholic Church.

JAMES N. DAVIS was born January 1, 1807, in Hanover County, Va. His father, Peter Davis, was also a native of Hanover County and a life-long farmer and slaveholder. He brought his family to Kentucky in 1817, and settled on and owned about 120 acres on Butler's Creek, Adair County, where he farmed until the spring of 1824, when he died in the seventy-fifth year of his age. He had been a soldier in the army of Gen. Washington. He married Elizabeth, a daughter of Robin Page, who owned a large plantation, which he cultivated with slave labor in his native county of Albemarle, Va. The names of the children born to Peter and Elizabeth Davis were Polly (wife of John Broeding), Jenny (Saeed), Judith (Walker), Elizabeth (Schuyler), John, Peter (Calkins), Lucy (Luge), Rebecca (Banks), Nancy

Mary Lee Dante Fri  
Aug 9 11:41:28 1996

Here is the background for my question:

John Dant, of St. Mary's Co. d. 1763

Children:

John Baptist b. 1745, d. 1 Feb, 1808

m. Susannah Gough

m. Elizabeth Hopewell Shercliff 26 jy, 1791

Anne Spaulding - m. Edward Spaulding sometime before 1763

Mary Anne Dant

Mary Mills m. Justinian Mills in 1751

Charles

Joseph Francis Xavier, incorrectly called Joseph Francis Excol  
in the Calendar of Wills.

Wife:

Eleanor (Nevit?)

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Joseph Francis Xavier (my ancestor) m. Martha Shercliff sometime  
before 1791

His children:

Thomas - m. Martha B. Outterridge

William - m. Susan Fenwick in 1814 (my ancestor)

Mary - b 14 June, 1798 m Samuel Willett 18 March 1818

d. 29 December, 1875 in Kentucky

She was married in Bardstown, Ky - at that time her parents were  
dead

Joseph Francis - maybe b 1799; baptized at Georgetown, Md (now DC)  
in 1800.

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Question 1: Does anyone have any information about Joseph Francis  
Xavier Dant or Martha Shercliff Dant, his wife? I know her father was  
Thomas Shercliff, St. Charles Co., but do not have either a birth or a

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ingrossed and read a third time."

Thursday, this recording is noted:  
a seal for this Commonwealth,

pass, and that the title be "An  
Commonwealth." (p. 29)

the bill to the House of Repre-  
sentation." (p. 29)

4: "A bill from the Senate, to  
Commonwealth, was read the third  
time by the Speaker. (*Journal of*  
1792, p. 43).

the same day, December 14,  
from the House of Representa-  
tion. Lawson, Representative from

have passed the bills entitled  
ent of power, and recording  
provide a Seal for this Com-  
monwealth. (p. 30).

ed the legislation providing  
on December 20, 1792. (p. 37). As re-  
sult it enacted by the General  
Assembly, and is hereby  
empowered, a seal for this Common-  
wealth, engraved with the follow-  
ing, with the name of the  
about them, the following  
"GIVEN WE FALL." (p.

Session of The General As-  
sembly, Begun and Held  
on the Fifth of November.  
and Seven Hundred and  
seventy, the First. (Lexing-  
ton to the Commonwealth).

seal committee, com-  
posed of Robert Johnson and Rep-

representative Robert Mosby, did considerable research upon  
their assignment. Likely, too, the members conferred with  
Governor Shelby, who doubtless was quite interested, because  
he was "required" by the legislature to provide the seal. It  
may be that he appointed someone with artistic talents to sub-  
mit specimens for his consideration and that of the committee.  
Humphrey Marshall, the historian, and at the time representa-  
tive from Woodford County, fails to record the details, al-  
though he does list the Act.

Of interest is the fact that on July 10, 1793, the early and  
talented silversmith, Joshua Humphreys, of Lexington, was  
"awarded the sum of twelve pounds sterling for his having  
made the first seal and press for the Commonwealth of Ken-  
tucky." (Lucy F. and Noble W. Hiatt, *The Silversmiths of*  
*Kentucky*, 1954, p. 46).

The seal commonly affixed to Isaac Shelby's official pap-  
ers — commissions, land grants, etc. — reveals two men em-  
bracing. They wear tight fitting knee britches and swallow  
tail coats. The figure on the left has his right arm about the  
figure on the right, the hand slightly above the waist line (and  
over the left extended arm of the right figure), and apparently  
the right arm of the figure on the right is around the body of  
the one on the left, just below the shoulder. The head of the  
right figure almost hides that on the left. As time passed the  
seals presented the figures (still joined) in slightly different  
costumes (long tight-fitting trousers, for instance) and some-  
what less affectionate poses. The idea of "united" seems to  
be more stressed, by position of the figures, in the 1792 seal  
than in later ones. Regardless, the Kentucky Seal is heroic,  
unique and impressive.

## JOHN F. DAHRINGER

## Lebanon Historian Dies

On Saturday, May 13, a good friend and benefactor of  
the Historical Society, John Dahringer, passed. He had de-  
voted a good portion of his life to history — reading, research-  
ing, collecting, writing, and encouraging and helping others to  
write. At the time of his death, he had virtually completed  
a history of Lebanon and Marion County.

death date for either person. I have seen him referred to as Joseph and as Joseph Francis.

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Question 2: Has anyone seen baptismal records for Eliza Ann Dant and/or Mary Dant, of Thomas and Martha?

Thomas apparently had 8 children, the youngest appearing only in the Trinity Church (Georgetown) baptismal records, hence probably died in infancy. All other children were born/baptized in Georgetown, except two daughters: Eliza Ann and Mary.

Thomas and Martha lived in Kentucky from 1817-1825 and the rest of the time in Georgetown and then in Prince Georges Co, Md. On the 1830 census they were listed as having two daughters, one born between 1815-1820 and the other born between 1820-1825. Since this is the time they were living in Kentucky, I assume their baptismal records are there.

I have no idea which church they attended while in Kentucky, but they were Roman Catholics.

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Thanks for any help which can be afforded.

1st Old Age Pension Check  
in State was issued  
to Mary Cecil Dant by  
The Govt Chandler  
b Dec 1948 at 91 years

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**With the Armed Forces**  
Mr. and Mrs. Louis Dant, Loretto, have received word that their son, Air Force Sgt. Joseph Mitchell Dant, is in a hospital in Hawaii recovering from a chest injury suffered in an airplane crash several weeks ago... Marine Pvt. James Beaven Miles, stationed at San Diego, Calif., was stricken by a throat infection while en-route home to spend a furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J.R. Miles, at Calvary, and was removed from the train at Las Vegas, N.M. Now improving, he will continue his trip home within a short time.

#### **Owens rare Bible**

Edwin Charles Litsey has in his possession an old "breeches" Bible that is more than 300 years old. Published in 1610 in London, it was found among the books of his brother, the late Clarence H. Litsey. It is a copy of the now rare Geneva Bible, the first printed Bible in English, 3:7 where later editions used "aprons."

#### **50 years ago May 15, 1959**

##### **May get new plant**

A Dayton, Ohio, uniform company on Monday will launch a Lebanon operation slated to employ approximately 70 persons. And C.E. Brechts, chairman of the Chamber of Commerce industrial committee, says there is a good chance the company later may be induced to transfer all its operations here—a move which, if it comes about, would provide employment for approximately 350 persons.

#### **\$3,500 housing site**

A jury in Marion Circuit Court this week ruled that the Lebanon Public Housing Commission must pay Mr. and Mrs. James Robert Wade the sum of \$3,500 for a 1.48-acre tract of land on Sterk Avenue, part of a six-acre site chosen by the commission for a 26-unit public housing project for white families.

#### **Raywick woman dies**

A Marion County woman, Mrs. Alice Miles, was killed instantly at 1:45 p.m. Wednesday when the automobile from which she had just alighted rolled backward down an incline, knocking her to the ground and passing over her body. Mrs. Miles, 49, died of a crushed chest.

#### **Heads class**

Miss Edythe Lee Smith, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter R. Smith, Lebanon, is the valedictorian of the class of 1959 at Rosenwald High School. She heads a class of 13 seniors, members of which were announced this week by Mrs. Walter R. Smith, principal. The class salutatorian is Miss Annie Mary Spalding, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elwood Spalding of Washington County.

#### **Top of LHS class**

Miss Dorothy Rocks is valedictorian of the class of 1959 at Lebanon High School. Posting a scholastic average of 94.76 percent, this year's class leader-daughter of Mrs. Mary Pavey won out in a close duel with Jerry Helm, who took salutatorian honors with a mark of 94.60 percent. Helm is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Helm.

#### **65 years ago May 19, 1944**

##### **Obituaries**

Mrs. Virginia Coppage Purdy, 75, dies yesterday at her home at Bradfordsville... Robert H. Minor, 60-year-old Raywick farmer, died last Thursday at J.A. Baute Memorial Hospital... Robert Wayman, 75, died Monday at his home in the Rush Branch community... Mark

Don't

FILES

**years ago**  
**71, 1878**

night... The Tanpeelers are busily at work in the woods, but shipments as yet are rather light.

**75 Years Ago**  
**April 28, 1933**

**nan has oldest dog**  
W. Coppage is our the statement that Isaacs, the oldest in County, is also of the oldest dog in Mr. Isaacs is 93 and the dog is 19.

**Damaged auto recovered**

**the, whisky**  
lead & Co., of shipped a carload from Loreto to last Saturday. They and five barrels of New York, and the isville.

A Ford Sedan belonging to Rev. G.B. Rich, pastor of the Presbyterian church of this city, was stolen from the garage in the rear of the Rich home last Thursday evening or early Friday morning and was later found badly damaged on the Danville Pike about four and a half miles from town. So quietly did the thieves work that neither Rev. Rich nor Mrs. Rich heard the machine when it was driven away and learned of the robbery about five o'clock Friday morning when they were told by phone where the damaged machine was located.

**65 Years Ago**  
**April 30, 1943**

**A surprise wedding**  
An announcement of a wedding which came as a surprise to friends here was that of Miss Willia E. Unsel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Unsel of this county, and Eddie Kassen of Vincennes, Ind., which took place in Jeffersonville, Ind., Easter Sunday.

**Bank president dies**

George W. Dant, 70, president of the Farmer's National Bank of this city and long a prominent figure in the distilling industry in Kentucky, died unexpectedly at 3:40 o'clock

**Honored at UK**

The University of Kentucky this week honored 166 of its students who rank in the upper three per cent of their respective classes. Among the group was Mac Jarboe, son of County Judge Joe B. Jarboe and Mrs. Jarboe, Lebanon.

**Electrocution remembered**

Forty-seven years ago next Wednesday there occurred in Lebanon the crime that resulted in Kentucky's first legal electrocution.

**Word from Africa**

Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Ray of the St. Joseph section were notified last week by the War Department that their son, Cpl. Robert L. Ray, had been slightly wounded in action in North Africa.

**Club views movie**

The motion picture, "Scenic Kentucky," was the program feature at the Monday Study Club meeting this week at the home of its president, Mrs.

**50 Years Ago**  
**May 2, 1958**

from North Africa, dated April 11, named her son as showing normal improvement.

**40 Years Ago**  
**May 2, 1968**

Howell C. Buckner. Mrs. G.H. Karnes was in charge of the program.

**Drug store opens**

Lebanon's new Begley Drug Store will celebrate the grand opening of its new store here tomorrow and Saturday. The new store is located on West Main Street on the property that formerly was the location of the A & P Food Store.

**Army transfers**

Pfc. Francis B. Reynolds arrived in Vietnam April 17 after spending a 31-day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Reynolds, Route 1, Raywick.

Sp/5 David L. Carlton, Jr., returned home Saturday, April 27, from Vietnam after a year's duty at Cu Chi, with the U.S. 25th Infantry.

**Win blue ribbon**

Ricky Goodin and Joe Badgett of Boy Scout Troop 434, sponsored by the Lebanon Kiwanis Club, won a blue ribbon for their display at the Scout-O-Rama in Louisville over the weekend.

**Farm Hama and C... Shaw winners**

**Winners of...**

**nellings**  
Phillips, Jr., Esq., arden a strawberry as on it 177 blots Chapter No. will hold a stated ion next Monday

**Insurance veteran**

Twenty-five years is a long period to be connected with the same organization, but John W. Clarkson of this city has been the local representative of the Continental Insurance Co.