

Black Kentucky Pioneers:

Rowan Family Reunion

By Jerry Long

HISTORY OF THE ROWAN FAMILY

Compiled By Thelma Newton Rochelle (1899-1985)
Daughter of Morris Newton & Annie Maria Rowan
August 18, 1946

In Ohio County, Kentucky, during the days of slavery there lived a Dr. John Rowan who had a large plantation and owned many slaves. In 1825 a little Negro boy by the name of Henry was born on this plantation. His parents were named Harry and Catherine Rowan as the slaves usually took the name of their master.

Little Henry's father was shoemaker and when he grew to be a young man he was an ox driver for his master. He had five brothers: Gates, Ed, Levi., Jim and Hiram who was often called "Top". Annie Rowan Ben, the wife of Noel Bell, was his only sister. Henry, Levi, Jim and Ed were soldiers in the Civil War.

About 1860 Henry Rowan married Mary Munt who had one son, Giles Richardson. The following children were born to this union: Harry, Annie Maria, Louisa Catherine, Minnie, Julia, Jim, Volley, Mollie., Fannie, Arthur and Mattie.

Mary Munt Rowan was born in Virginia in 1826. Her parents were Maria and Giles Munt. Giles Munt was a fun blooded Indian and was known as a free man. He was a shoemaker by trade. Little Mary came to Yellow Banks what is now called Owensboro, Kentucky, when she was eleven years old in 1837 with her master, George Richardson and his family. Her features were like those of her father. She was of a reddish brown color, high cheek bones and straight black hair which reached to her waist. She was about five feet tall and weighed near 165 pounds. She had two sisters, namely Kitty and Ellen Munt and one brother, Benton Preston, who was a blacksmith. Benton Preston was proprietor of the Preston Hotel at Glasgow Junction, Kentucky, near Mammoth Cave until his death.

New Hope Baptist Church of Pettit, Kentucky, was organized in the home of Henry and Mary Rowan who were devout christians and had a desire to give their twelve children religious training. The Rev. Barney Stone was the first pastor of the church.

A subscription school was also held at the home of Mary and Henry Rowan. Katie Rowan, a neice, the daughter of Gates Rowan, was the school teacher. Annie Rowan Bell taught school for a number of years in Ohio County.

In 1892 a bit of gloom came into the life of Mary Rowan. It was this year that the supreme master saw fit to call her husband, Henry Rowan, from earth to reward at the age of 67 years. Shortly after his death during the same year she lost her eye sight. She was blind for sixteen years. Having been a christian for many years and knowing how to lean and depend on the Saviour, she did not let this affliction serve as a handicap or dampen her spirit. She spent the

most of her time singing the songs of Zion, praising the Lord and knitting. She knitted socks and gloves and pieced quilts after she was blind.

She won a prize for knitting after she was blind from the Daviess County Fair which was held in Owensboro, Ky.

In 1896 the children of Mary Rowan thought it would bring sunshine into their mother's life by requesting all of her children and their families and as many relatives as possible to meet at her home on a certain day and have dinner together. Thus, the outgrowth was the birth of the Rowan Reunion which was held at Southerner [sic – should be Sutherland] Station in 1896. For many years the Rowan Reunion was held at the School House in Pettit, Ky., and which time the many relatives and friends assembled themselves together to discuss the lives of their ancestors and become better acquainted with one another.

Aunt Mary Munt Rowan fell asleep the morning of June 8, 1908 at the home of her son and daughter-in-law, Volley and Rhoda Rowan at 72 years of age. At her death she had 75 grandchildren. Henry Newton, the son of Morris and Annie Rowan Newton, has the distinction of being the oldest grandchild.

Members of the Rowan Family continued to have the Reunion each summer even after the passing of their mother. There was no fixed date for this great gathering until 1920; at which time it was decided by the family to hold the Rowan Reunion the third Sunday in August of each year and to notify as many of the relatives as possible to attend the historic affair.



Post Office Box 117
Drakesboro, Kentucky 42337
August 14, 1988

"Good Morning", to all our beloved relatives of the Rowan and families.

We would like for this report to be filed with the permanent records of the Rowan Reunion proceedings. Please read it each year so that our children and children's children will remember a certain date in the year of our Lord, 2015. That date is only 27 years from 1988. God willing, many of you here today will still be around.

An indestructible container was buried on the grounds of the Daviess County Public Square in Owensboro, Kentucky in June, 1965. This event marked the Sesquicentennial of Daviess County's beginning. It was 150 years old in 1965 and will be 200 years old in 2015. The Rowan Reunion, organized in 1896, will be 119 years old in 2015.

This metal container, a vault of sorts, holds information about the County and its citizens. At that time two histories were known to have been written about the remarkable Rowan Reunion: Cousin Thelma Newton Rochelle's History and my history.

Copies of these documents, Cousin Geneva Kelly Mitchell's benediction "The Unbreakable Chain" and other memorabilia were sent to the committee in charge of the contents of the container.

Let us hope that some dedicated writer in the family will continue the history of one of the oldest, if not the oldest, family gatherings in Kentucky.

Let our slogan be:

‘We made this chain unbreakable;
We made this link unshakeable;

There is nothing else for us to do
But carry on and see it through!"

I sincerely regret that I cannot be with you today. Let us continue to love each other and to cherish the memories of our sainted ancestors who established this precious organization.

May God be with all of us and may all of us be with God!

Cousin Leslie Shively Smith
(Grandmother Octavia Richardson Shively was Mary Rowan's first cousin)



August 15, 1991

To my beloved relatives of the Rowan and related families:

I would like for this message to be read at the 95th anniversary of the great Rowan Reunion which began in the summer of 1986:

Documentary items of historical significance concerning the Rowan and related families were among the interesting articles placed in a capsule which was buried on the grounds of the Daviess County Public Square in Owensboro in June, 1965. This was a part of the local observance of Daviess County's Sesquicentennial.

This indestructible container will be opened in June, 2015 which will mark the Bicentennial of Daviess County, Kentucky.

Emphasize the importance of this date to your children and grandchildren so that some of them will remember to be present at this historical ceremony.

Let us hope that the 117-year-old Rowan Reunion will still be intact as it has been since 1896.

Copies of this record of historical importance will be filed in the following libraries: Filson Club of Louisville, Kentucky Building at Bowling Green, Kentucky Historical Society, Frankfort ,Owensboro-Daviess County, and in the three libraries in Muhlenberg County, where it will be preserved for posterity.

This gathering is unique because no family reunion nearly so old as ours has been reported in this area.

Let's keep alive the memory of those who have toiled arduously throughout the years to keep the flame of the Rowan Reunion aglow.

I may not get to attend this year's meeting but my thoughts will be with you wherever I am.

Love and best wishes for all of you and for the ones you love and the ones who love you.

With affection,
Cousin Leslie Shively Smith
Drakesboro, Kentucky
Granddaughter of Octavia Shively, first cousin of Mary Munt Rowan



Messenger-Inquirer, Owensboro, KY, 21 August 1995, p.1A:

**One Hundred Years of Family
Descendants of the Rowans gather for 100th reunion**

By Stewart Jennison, Messenger-Inquirer



Rowan family members wave to others waiting at New Hope Baptist Church in Pettit for the “parade” to arrive. The caravan included two wagons pulled by tractors, several cars and minivans and a school bus borrowed from Owensboro Catholic High School.

While Henry and Mary Munt Rowan toiled as plantation slaves in western Kentucky, they no doubt dreamed of a better future for their children and their descendants.

They dreamed about freedom, but could the Rowans of pre-Civil War days have imagined Rowans as doctors and lawyers and teachers, and that they would scatter from Indianapolis and Cleveland to Atlanta and Houston and Los Angeles?

And that on the third Sunday of each August, they would come together to pay tribute to their memory, not once but 100 times?

The impossible dream was carried out this weekend in Daviess County, as more than 350 members of one of Daviess County's more prominent families came together for a centennial celebration of the first reunion held at Mary Rowan's Pettit home.

Most years the reunion is a simple affair, with Rowans who still live around Owensboro preparing turkey and corn pudding to serve following a Sunday morning worship service and family business meeting at the New Hope Baptist Church south of Owensboro.

But the 100th Rowan family reunion was a much bigger to-do, explained Marilyn Rowan-McKissic, an Owensboro native who now lives in Louisville, where she is an assistant

manager for BellSouth. A year ago, she merely suggested that the 100th meeting should be special, and found herself "volunteered" to coordinate the big weekend.

It started Friday with a boat ride on the Executive Queen and continued Saturday with a golf scramble and picnic luncheon, then an evening dinner and dance at the Sportscenter.

Sunday morning, the Rowan clan assembled for a prayer breakfast at the H.L. Neblett Center, then boarded vans, hay wagons and a bus for a pilgrimage down U.S. 431 to the New Hope Baptist Church, which was first organized in the Pettit home of Henry and Mary Rowan.

Rowan-McKissic said many members of the family have moved farther and farther from Owensboro over the years as they pursued education and professional opportunities.

Bringing them "home" to Daviess County to live would require more job opportunities, she said. "It's just like with young, white people. The same things are needed to come back to."

For Rowans who never left, the reunion was an opportunity to see relatives not seen for years.

At age 99, Wilbert Hayden, one of Henry and Mary Rowan's, 75 grandchildren, was the oldest to attend the gathering. Hayden worked 30 years for the Railroad before retiring, but remains a regular bowler – the oldest league bowler in Kentucky, he says.

Juanita Humphrey, 85, is also one of the 75 grandchildren, and has outlived all 13 of her brothers and sisters.

"I've really enjoyed seeing so many people," she said during Saturday night's dinner party. "I've only missed three of the reunions that I can remember."

A family history compiled in 1946 traces the Rowan family to Henry's birth into slavery in 1825 on the Ohio County plantation of Dr. John Rowan.

Mary Munt was born in Virginia the following year. Her father was a full-blooded American Indian. In 1837, Mary, then 11, moved to Owensboro – then called Yellow Banks – with her master, George Richardson and his family.

Henry and Mary were married about 1860 and had 11 children together.

Henry died in 1892 at the age of 67, and soon after that, Mary became blind, although she remained active and enjoyed knitting. She died in 1908 at age 72.

Today, the descendants of Henry and Mary Rowan are known by many last names including Bell, Black, Crump, Ford, Hall, Hayden, Humphrey, Jackson, Kelly, King, Mays, Nelson, Newton, Orr, Preston, Price, Rowan, Richardson, Riley, Shively, Shobe, Simmons, Thruston, Welch, Wilhite and Williams.

Messenger-Inquirer, Owensboro, KY, 12 August 2020 p1B:

Rowan family prepares for 125th reunion

Renee Beasley Jones, Messenger-Inquirer

For 125 years, nothing has stopped the local Rowan Family Reunion from taking place on the third weekend of August.

Not world wars. Not the 1918 Spanish flu. Or COVID-19.

The continuously running family reunion will go on as planned this weekend. The only difference this year: It will be virtual because of the worldwide pandemic.

Members of the Rowan family have learned there is at least one positive aspect to an online event, said Brenda Rowan Duneghy of Owensboro.

"We have people in Africa and people in Indonesia," she said.

Also, one family member in France may participate.
The Rowan reunion is not a typical Sunday afternoon potluck at a park.



Family members gather at the 123rd Rowan Family Reunion in 2018. This year marks the family's 125th consecutive celebration, which is a virtual event because of the coronavirus.

The three-day event is a major production with matching T-shirts, a raffle, scavenger hunt, tennis match, golf scramble, live entertainment, picnic, catered Saturday night banquet, Sunday breakfast and worship service, and a college scholarship.

"One year we had a fashion show," Duneghy said. "And one year, we had a talent show. It's total family enjoyment."

Besides the flurry of activities, there are committees with officers who are elected during a family meeting on the last day of the event.

Duneghy has many fond memories of her family's reunions, which started in 1896 at a church in Pettit.

For one thing, she remembers fondly her aunt's chocolate pie.

But, during the family meeting on Sunday one year, a stranger walked in off the street unannounced, Duneghy said. It is the sweetest memory she carries from the family reunions.

In typical Rowan style, the family invited him into the fold.

"We fixed him a plate and took him to town. It was like an angel walked in," she said.

For the 100th family reunion, the Rowans celebrated for the first time with a Saturday night banquet at the Owensboro Sportscenter.

Today, the annual reunion rotates from Owensboro to Indianapolis to Louisville so it's not too much work for any branch of the family, and rotating between cities helps older family members who don't travel as well anymore.

When the event is held in Owensboro, which it will be this weekend, there are generally up to 200 people in attendance.

Duneghy's dad, Ellis Rowan of Owensboro, is 97. He will be the oldest person attending this year's reunion.

Jeanette Rowan Jones of Bowling Green has attended every family reunion for at least half a century.

"This is the first time we won't be together physically," Jones said. "But we didn't want to miss out on a reunion ever."

Her mom, Josephine Rowan, 88, of Owensboro, is the reunion's matriarch.

When attendance started to drop a bit in the early '90s, Rowan introduced a Saturday picnic to increase interest.

"I've been going ever since I've been married," Rowan said.

She married into the family in 1953 and has never missed a reunion.

At one time, her six children formed a choir of sorts and performed at some of the reunions.

"My children need to keep carrying it on," Rowan said.

She hopes grandchildren and great-grands keep the annual tradition going after that.

It's a big production that takes about eight months to plan, but the Rowan clan is happy to make that investment, Duneghy said.

"Family is a big production. You have to have support from the top of the rung to the bottom of the rung. We all need that support," she said.



Notes on the Rowan Family **By Jerry Long**

Harry & Catharine Rowan of Ohio County, Kentucky were the parents of:

Henry Rowan, born c1837 Ohio County, KY; married Mary Munt / Mundt, c1860; died 1892, lived Daviess County, KY at death. (see below)

Ed Rowan, born 9 September 1841 Ohio County, KY. He was a Union Soldier during the Civil War. He married c1866 to Louisa Richardson (born c1846 VA – died between 1884 & 1900). He is listed in the 1880 & 1900 censuses of Daviess County, KY. He was a farmer. Their children included – Buckner, Ellen, Comia, Willie, Elvis, Maud and Jeanie.

Levi Rowan, born in June 1842 KY. He was a Union Soldier during the Civil War – Company C of the 109th US Colored Infantry; he enlisted on 8 June 1864. He is listed in the 1870 census of Ohio County, KY and 1880 & 1900 censuses of Daviess County, KY. He married Mary Fields, c1866; she was born 12 June 1846 Ohio County, KY & died 1 April 1918 Daviess County, KY, the 1900 census records she was the mother of 12 children 8 of whom were then living. He was a farmer. Levi Rowan, of Pettit in Daviess County, KY wrote a final will on 1 February 1898 and it was recorded in Daviess County, KY on 18 October 1909. A death notice in the Owensboro Messenger reported he died at Pettit on 19 August 1909 of paralysis of the heart. He left his farm at Pettit (71 acres) and one share in Greenwood Cemetery in Owensboro, KY to his wife, Mary. His wife, Mary, was buried at Pettit, in Daviess County, KY. Mary is listed in the 1910 census of Daviess County and was reported to be the owner of a farm. Their children included – Ella, Della, Alverta, Clayton, Lizzie, Lelia, Clemmie, Henry Stephen and Frances Elizabeth.

James Rowan, ‘Jim’, born in October 1843 KY. He was a Union Soldier during the Civil War. He served in Company C of the 109th US Colored Infantry; he field for a pension on 12 December 1887 and his widow, Georgiana Rowan field for his pension on 22 April 1909. He married Ellen Rock (born October 1850 KY, 26 May 1869 Ohio County, KY. He is listed in the 1870 & 1880 censuses of Ohio County, KY and 1900 census of Daviess County, KY. In 1870 & 1880 he was living near Buford. He was a farmer. The 1900 census reported that his wife, was the mother of 10 children, 5 of whom were then living. Their children included – Mary C., Zula, Jacob Gratny, Hubbard, John, Crit, Annie and George. In 1870 listed in his home was a Lucy Rowan, age 45, born KY. In the 1900 census Lucy Rowan, born 1824 North Carolina, is shown to be the stepmother of James. Lucy was reported to be widowed, two children were born to her, both of whom were then deceased. James Rowan married Mrs. Georgia Ann (Hite) Jackson, 3 September 1901 Daviess County, KY; Georgia Ann was born 7 February 1862 and died 4 September 1939; she was buried at the Bethlehem Baptist Church Cemetery, Utica, Daviess County, KY. James died during 1900-1903. The Owensboro Inquirer of 29 January 1901 (p8) reported that Georgia Ann Rowan was unable to qualify as the administratrix of the estate of the late, James Rowan, deceased.

Gates Rowan – had a daughter, Katie

Hiram Rowan born 18 June 1849 Ohio County, KY. He is listed as living with his brother, Henry Rowan, in the 1870 census of Ohio County, KY. He married Mollie Fields (born 15 March 1855 – Ohio County, KY – died after 1910 McLean County, KY), 11 February 1873 Ohio County, KY. He is listed in the 1880 census of Ohio County, KY, 1900, 1910 & 1920 censuses of McLean County, KY. He died 20 April 1924 McLean County, KY. His death certificate listed that he was a son of Harry Rowan. He was a farmer and was buried Buck Creek Cemetery, McLean County, KY. The 1900 census recorded that his wife was the mother of 12 children, two of whom were then deceased. Their children included – Oma, Barbara, Lizzie B., Sherman, Roger, Josephine, Mary, Bessie, Everett, Pearl and Top.

Annie Elizabeth Rowan born September 12 September 1852 Ohio County, KY. She married Noah Bell (3 December 1855 Ohio County, KY – 25 April 1918 Evansville, Vanderburgh County, IN, son of Harry & Harriet Bell), 1 March 1877 Daviess County, KY. They are listed in the 1880 & 1900 censuses of Owensboro, Daviess County, KY and 1910 census of Evansville, Vanderburgh County, IN. They were parents of – Ulysses Simpson and Luther W. Bell. Annie died 2 August 1927 Evansville, Vanderburgh County, IN. Her death certificate gave her father’s name as Harry Rowan. She and her husband were buried Oak Hill Cemetery, Evansville, IN.



Henry Rowan, son of Harry & Catharine, was born c1837 Ohio County, KY. The “History of the Rowan Family”, written by Thelma Newton Rochelle (18 August 1946) suggests that Henry Rowan had been a slave of Dr. John Rowan of Ohio County, KY, who owned many slaves. The Rowan physician, of Ohio County, who owned many slaves was Dr. Alexander Richard Rowan (1798-1878), a nephew of Judge John Rowan of Federal Hill fame (“My Old

Kentucky Home” of Bardstown, KY). In the 1840 census of Ohio County Alexander Rowan is reported to have 4 slaves, his brothers, John (1807-1883) owned 1 slave and William Cooper Rowan (1792-1879) owned 12. In the 1860 Federal Census Slave Schedule of Ohio County, KY Alexander R. Rowan is reported to be the owner of 9 slaves and William C. Rowan of 13, both owned males aged 22-23 that were the age of Henry Rowan (c1837-1892) in 1860.

Henry Rowan served as a corporal in the Union Army during the Civil War. He enlisted in the 109th US Colored Infantry (company G) on 9 June 1864. He married Munt / Mundt, about 1860. According to the “History of the Rowan Family”, written by Thelma Newton Rochelle (18 August 1946) Mary Munt Rowan was the daughter of Maria & Giles Munt (he was an Indian) and she was brought to Kentucky by her master, George Richardson, in 1837. She was born c1837 in Virginia. Mary was reported as being born in Richmond, VA on the death certificate of her daughter, Louisa Catherine Kelly (1865-1948). Mary had been a slave of George Richardson (Richeson), and was brought to Kentucky by him. He was born 17 March 1789 Caroline County, VA and died 2 March 1869 Ohio County, KY. He married Frances Thompson, 23 December 1827 Caroline County, VA. George Richardson, farmer, is listed in the 1850 & 1860 censuses of Ohio County, KY. George moved to Kentucky between 1835-1840; by 1840 he was living in Nelson County, KY. In Ohio County, KY George lived and was buried near Buford; a son, Samuel J. Richeson (1835-1900) was buried at the Mt. Carmel Baptist Church Cemetery, at Buford in Ohio County, KY.

Mary Munt had a son, Giles Richardson, who was born in 1853. Giles was may be a son of their slave master, George Richardson. George had other children by his slaves; this practice was very common in slavery days. George by his slave, Annie Richardson, had children – Octavia Richardson (1828-1931, wife of Edmond Shively), Thomas Rock Richardson (born c1839, married Hester L. Fields) & Lou Richardson (see article, “Black Kentucky Pioneers: Smith, Leslie Shively (1908-1997)” (Internet wckyhistory-genealogy.org). Annie Richardson about 1845-1852 married Levy Simmons. Several of the members of the family of Annie (Richardson) Simmons were reportedly buried at the George Richardson family cemetery near Buford in Ohio County, KY and at the Pleasant Point Baptist Church Cemetery, Pleasant Ridge, Daviess County, KY.

Henry & Mary Rowan are listed in the 1870 census of Ohio County, KY and 1880 census of Daviess County, KY:

Ohio County, KY 1870 Federal Census, Bell’s District, post office Buford, p329B:

Rowan, Henry	Black	33	farmer	KY
Mary	Black	32		VA
Harry B.	Black	10		KY
Ann M.	Black	8		KY
Louisa C.	Black	6		KY
Minnie	Black	3		KY
Julia	Black	1		KY
Richardson, Jiles	Black	17	works on farm	KY
Turner, Mariah	Black	58		VA
Rowan, Hiram	Black	20		KY

Daviess County, KY 1880 Federal Census, Lower Town Precinct, p266A:

Rowan, Henry	Black	43	head	farmer	Ky-Ky-Ky
Mary	Black	42	wife	keeping house	Ky-Ky-Ky
Giles	Black	25	son	works on farm	Ky-Ky-Ky
Harry	Black	18	son	works on farm	Ky-Ky-Ky
Annie	Black	16	dau.		Ky-Ky-Ky
Lou	Black	15	dau.		Ky-Ky-Ky
Minnie	Black	13	dau.		Ky-Ky-Ky
Julia Rowan	Black	11	dau.		Ky-Ky-Ky
Volley	Black	9	dau.	[was a son]	Ky-Ky-Ky
Mollie	Black	8	dau.		Ky-Ky-Ky
Jimmie	Black	7	son		Ky-Ky-Ky
Fannie	Black	4	dau.		Ky-Ky-Ky
Author	Black	9/12	son		Ky-Ky-Ky

Henry Rowan died 1892, lived Daviess County, KY at death. In the 1900 census of Daviess County, KY his widow, Mary (Munt) Rowan, was listed as living in the home of her daughter, Louisa (Rowan) Kelly. Mary died on 8 June 1908 and was buried at the Bethlehem Baptist Church Cemetery, near Utica, in Daviess County, KY.



Bethlehem Baptist Church Cemetery
Utica, Daviess County, KY

The following were children of Mary Munt and Henry Rowan:

Giles Richardson, son of Mary Munt, born 12 November 1853 Ohio County, KY; married Ann Davidson, 1 May 1884 Daviess County, KY and Mrs. Rena Ballard Glover (27 July 1845 – 1 May 1923, buried Greenwood Cemetery, Owensboro, KY, Rena married 1st Henry Glover), c1902; Giles died 10 August 1916 Daviess County, KY. His children included – Roy, Carrie, Broadie, Percey, Levy and Iris E.

Commonwealth of Kentucky
STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS
CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

1 PLACE OF DEATH
County Daviess
Vol. No. Sutherland
Town
City Paris No. Richardson St. Ward

File No. 210147
Registered No. 5275
If death occurred in a hospital or institution, give its name (except in special case number.)

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS

SEX male COLOR OF HAIR Cal. MARRIAGE STATUS married DATE OF DEATH Apr 12 1949
(Males 10 to 14 years) (Males 15 to 17 years) (Males 18 to 20 years) (Males 21 to 24 years) (Males 25 to 29 years) (Males 30 to 34 years) (Males 35 to 39 years) (Males 40 to 44 years) (Males 45 to 49 years) (Males 50 to 54 years) (Males 55 to 59 years) (Males 60 to 64 years) (Males 65 to 69 years) (Males 70 to 74 years) (Males 75 to 79 years) (Males 80 to 84 years) (Males 85 to 89 years) (Males 90 to 94 years) (Males 95 to 99 years) (Males 100 years and over)

DATE OF BIRTH Nov-12-1868 I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from Apr 12 1949 to Apr 12 1949, 1949.
(Month) (Day) (Year)
 that I last saw him/her on Apr 2 1949, 1949, and that death occurred, on the date stated above, at Paris.
 The CAUSE OF DEATH* was as follows:
Terminal stage of Tuberculosis

OCCUPATION (a) Trade, profession, or particular kind of work Farmer
 (b) General nature of industry, business, or establishment in which employed (or both):

BIRTHPLACE (Place of nativity) Kentucky
 NAME OF FATHER James Richardson
 BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER Ohio
 MOTHER'S NAME Mary Richardson
 BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER Virginia

IF THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF YOUR KNOWLEDGE
 (Informant) James H. ...
 (Address) ...
 File No. May 1, 1918 W. W. Dodson
 Registrar

CONTRIBUTORY CAUSE OF DEATH
 (Signed) C. M. ... M. D.
Apr 12 1949 (Address) ...
 I AM A LICENSED PHYSICIAN UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE KENTUCKY MEDICAL ACT AND I HAVE BEEN DULY REGISTERED WITH THE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF KENTUCKY.
 (License) ... (State) ... (No.) ...
 What was disease contracted, if not at place of death?
 Former or usual residence Paris, Daviess Co., Ky.
 PLACE OF BIRTH OR REMOVAL Paris, Daviess Co., Ky. DATE OF BURIAL Apr 11 1949
 (Address) ...
 UNDERTAKER ... ADDRESS ...

Harry B. Rowan, born 10 November 1860 KY; married Amelia A Davidson (May 1868-after 1901), 22 December 1885 Daviess County, KY and Mrs. Martha (Davis) Negley, 20 December 1939; he died 12 February 1949 Owensboro, Daviess County, KY and was buried Mater Dolorosa (Catholic) Cemetery, Owensboro, KY.

Owensboro Messenger, Sunday, 13 February 1949 p4B:

Negro Deaths

Harry Rowan

Harry Rowan, 88, died at the home of his daughter, Mary Edna Ford, 2491 West Eighth street, at 11:55 a. m. Saturday.

Surviving are the daughter, five sons, Charles and William Rowan, Kokomo, Ind., Tom Rowan, Louisville, George and Henry Rowan, Owensboro, four sisters, Minnie Folks, Julia Hayden, Mollie Jones, Owensboro, Fannie Sutherland, Pettit, one brother, James Rowan, Pleasant Ridge, and six grandchildren.

Funeral services will be at 2 p. m. Monday in Elm Street Methodist church, the Rev. J. P. Dentham will officiate, with burial in the Catholic cemetery.

Annie Maria Rowan, born 4 October 1863 Ohio County, KY; married Morris Newton (9 September 1859 – 31 August 1923 Evansville, Vanderburgh County, IN, son of Morris Newton & Angeline Hemmingway), 24 March 1881 Daviess County, KY; Annie died 18 March 1932 Evansville, Vanderburgh County, IN; she & her husband were buried Oak Hill Cemetery,

Evansville, IN. They were parents of – Henry, Josephine B., Walter, Arthur, Preston Antonio, Morris, Beulah A., Arquilla and Thelma M.

PLACES OF BIRTH
 County Anderson STANDARD CERTIFICATE OF DEATH Local No. 244
 Indiana State Board of Health Registered No. 10135
 DIVISION OF VITAL STATISTICS

Township Blount
 City Evansville No. 115 PLECEED
 Length of residence in city or town where death occurred, yrs. 24 Has long in U. S. if of foreign birth? yes

FULL NAME Henry Robinson
 Residence No. 115 Indiana St. 115

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS

SEX Male COLOR OF RACE White Height, Weight, Whiskered or Shaved 5'10" 170 Yes
 Hair Black Eyes Blue
 MARITAL STATUS Married
 (If married, name and address of wife)
 WIFE Thelma M. Robinson

DATE OF BIRTH (month, day and year) Jan 18 1832
 AGE Years 16 Months 5 Days 10 If LESS than 1 day, give hrs. and min.

OCCUPATION
 "Name, profession, or particular kind of work done, as operator, accountant, bookkeeper, etc."
Housewife
 "Industry or business in which work was done, as oil mill, saw mill, bank, etc."
 "Date deceased last worked at this occupation" (If that date (month, day and year))

BIRTHPLACE (State or country) Ky
 MOTHER'S NAME (Name and address) Thelma M. Robinson
 BIRTHPLACE (State or country) Ky
 MAIDEN NAME (Name and address) Thelma M. Robinson
 BIRTHPLACE (State or country) Ky
 INFIRMARY (Name and address) 1145 S. Indiana St.
 PLACE OF BIRTH OR REMOVAL (Name and address) 1145 S. Indiana St.
 UNDERTAKER (Name and address) Wheatley Funeral Home

WAS THE BODY EMERGED? yes EMPLOYER'S LICENSE No. 17153

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

DATE OF DEATH March 15 1932
 (Month) (Day) (Year)

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I attended deceased from Jan 18 1832 to March 18 1932
 and that death occurred, on the date stated above, at 11:30 A. M.
 The principal cause of death and related causes of importance were as follows:
Myocarditis Date of onset Jan 18 32
Pneumonia Yes
Bronchial Catarrh Jan 18 32

Name of operation Tubercle Date of Jan 18 32
 What test performed with result? None (If there an autopsy?)
 "If death was due to external cause (injury) fill in also the following:
 Accident, poison, or homicide? _____ Date of injury _____
 Where did injury occur? _____ (Specify city, county, county and State)
 Specify whether injury occurred in industry, in home, or in public place.
 Manner of injury _____
 Nature of injury _____
 "Was disease or injury in any way related to occupation of deceased?" No
 (Signed) James P. Coker M.D.
March 21 1932 (Address) 574 Olive St.

Louise Catherine Rowan, born 1 February 1865 Ohio County, KY; married Benjamin Newton (c1852 – after 1881, son of Morris Newton), 27 January 1881 Daviess County, KY and Henry Kelly (16 August 1863 – 6 July 1948, son of Robert & Jane Kelly), 31 March 1888 Daviess County, KY; Louise died 15 December 1948 Owensboro, Daviess County, KY; she & her husband, Henry Kelly, were buried Greenwood Cemetery, Owensboro, KY.

Owensboro Inquirer, Owensboro, KY, Wednesday, 15 December 1948 p9:

Negro Deaths

Louise Catherine Kelly
 Louise Catherine Kelly died at her home, 2421 West Short Ninth street, at 5:30 a. m. Wednesday after an illness of several weeks. Born in Daviess county, she had lived in Owensboro for a number of years. She was a member of the Zion Baptist church.

Surviving are three daughters, Rose Russell, Ada Winstead, and Geneva Bennett, Owensboro; five sons, Robert, Willie Dean, Owensboro, Horace and Henry, Chicago, Ill., and Hiram, Evansville, Ind.; three sisters, Minnie Foulks, Julia Hayden and Fannie Sutherland, and Mollie Jones; two brothers, Harry and James Rowan, all of Owensboro; 19 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren.

No funeral arrangements have been made.

The body is at the Agnew and Wheatley Funeral home.

Minnie Rowan, born 20 January 1867 Ohio County, KY; married Daniel Davidson (July 1867 – after 1900, son of Milton & Caroline Davidson), 18 April 1889 Daviess County, KY and Peter Folks (c1877 – bet. 1920 & 1930), 1910; Minnie died 24 November 1953 Owensboro, Daviess County, KY; buried Greenwood Cemetery, Owensboro, KY. She and Daniel Davidson were the parents of – Martha H., Mary H., Ruth & Ellen Gertrude.

Owensboro-Inquirer, Owensboro, KY, Wednesday, 25 November 1953 p14:

Minnie Rowans Folks
Minnie Rowan Folks, 86, died at 11:40 p. m. Tuesday in her home at 2227 W. Short 9th St.
Mrs. Folks had served as church mother in the Zion Baptist Church and Missionary Society.
She is survived by one daughter, Gertrude Bell, and one son, Lou Taylor Bell, both of Owensboro. Other survivors include two sisters, Mrs. Julie Hayden and Mrs. Mollie Jones, also of Owensboro; one brother, James Rowan of Pleasant Ridge, Ky., 12 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.
Funeral services will be held at 2 p. m. Friday at the Zion Baptist Church, with the Rev. F. A. Smith, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in the Greenwood Cemetery.
The body is at the Haynes Funeral Home.

Julia Rowan, born 14 December 1869 Ohio County, KY; married James Madison Hayden (29 November 1867 Lebanon, Marion County, KY – 27 September 1955 Owensboro, Daviess County, KY, son of J. Reason “Reese” Hayden & Mary Ann), 14 February 1888 Daviess County, KY; Julia died 10 January 1962 Owensboro, Daviess County, KY; she and her husband were buried Mater Dolorosa (Catholic) Cemetery, Owensboro, KY. They were parents of – Aurelia Dee, Rosie V., Roy B., James Wilbert Garfield, Lonnie Lee, Mary M., Charles Aaron, Thomas Marion, Louise A., John Grover C. and Estle T. Arthur.

Messenger-Inquirer, Owensboro, KY, Wednesday, 10 January 1962 p2A:

● Negro Deaths
MRS. JULIA HAYDEN
Mrs. Julia Hayden, 93, died at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday at her home, 2124 Short W. 9th St., following a long illness.
Born in Ohio County, Dec. 14, 1869, she had lived in Owensboro most of her life and was a member of the Precious Blood Catholic Church.
Surviving are three daughters, Mrs. Rosie Talbott, Mrs. Pearl Moorman, both of Owensboro, and Mrs. Louise Shauntee of Cincinnati; eight sons, Dee J., Roy B., Wilbert, Tommie Lee, Estelle and Johnnie Hayden, all of Owensboro, Arian and Marian Hayden, both of Denver, and 46 grandchildren.
The body is at the Griffith Funeral Home.

I received the following record of the Hayden family from Mrs. Jewell Brown, 2418 West 7th Street, Owensboro, KY:

Name	Place of Birth	Date	married	Died
James M. Hayden	Lebanon Ky	11/29/1867	2/14/1888	9/27 55
Julia Hayden	Ohio County	12/14/1868		1/10/62
Muslie M. Hayden	Rome Ky	12/15/1888	11/20	13/1/74
Rosie V. E. Hayden	Rome Ky	12/12/1892	12/28/20	6-14-80
Thos B. Hayden	Rome Ky	10/16/1894	4/25/23	5/16/89
James H. W. Hayden	Rome Ky	6/11/1896		
Louise Lee Hayden	Rome Ky	11/28/1898	7/21/20	1-21-1972
Mary M. Dummer Hayden	Rome Ky	4/30/1900		10/1/1919
Fannie P. F. Hayden	Rome Ky	4/14/1902	5/18/20	8-25-1975
Chas. Aaron Hayden	Rome Ky	3/23/1904	1/23/23	7 1975
Thos. Maxim Hayden	Rome Ky	3/23/1904		12-15-1968
Louise A. Hayden	Rome Ky	8/18/1906	12/30/20	
John H. E. Hayden	Pettit Ky	1/27/1908	11/29/39	
Estelle T. A. Hayden	Pettit Ky	4/15/1910	1/25/27	1/7/94
Sula H. Woodbridge		12/22/1888		7/7/1982

Volley Rowan, born 21 June 1870 Ohio County, KY; married Rhonda ('Rodie') Sutherland (25 April 1868 – 15 May 1950, daughter of Charles Sutherland & Charlotte Willis), 25 April 1901 Pettit, Daviess County, KY; Volley died 23 August 1936 Sutherland, Daviess County, KY; he & his wife, Rodie, were buried Bethlehem Baptist Church Cemetery, Utica, Daviess County, KY.

Owensboro Messenger, Owensboro, KY, Sunday, 23 August 1936 p2:

NEGRO DIES

Volly Rowan, 66, well known negro farmer of the Sutherland section, died at 5 p.m. Saturday. The funeral will be conducted at 2 p.m. Monday at New Hope Baptist church on the Livermore road, near Pettit. His nephews will be pallbearers.

Mollie Rowan, born 30 September 1872 Ohio County, KY; married William Lindsey Jones (4 July 1876 – 5 October 1950, buried Greenwood Cemetery, Owensboro, KY, son of Charles & Kittie Ann Jones), 29 June 1898 Daviess County, KY; Mollie died 19 November 1959 Owensboro, Daviess County, KY and was buried Elmwood Cemetery, Owensboro, KY. They were parents of – Nettie, Nannie Beatrice, Authur, Hardin, Fannie, Lossie, Wilbur, Juanita, Pauline, Charles and Bernard.

Messenger-Inquirer, Owensboro, KY, Friday, 20 November 1959 p6B:

• Negro Deaths

MRS. MOLLIE JONES
Mrs. Mollie Jones, 87, died in her home, 1216 W. 5th St., early Thursday.
Born in Ohio County, Sept. 30, 1872, she had lived in Owensboro most of her life. She was a member of New Hope Baptist Church at Pettit.
Surviving are six daughters,

Mrs. Nettie McKnight, Mrs. Lottie Martin, Mrs. Fannie Jones and Mrs. Juanita Humphrey, all of Owensboro; Mrs. Pauline King, Hemstead, N. Y.; Mrs. Nannie Fields, Chicago, Ill.; four sons, Arthur, Hardin, Charles and Wilbur Jones, all of Owensboro; 21 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; one great-grandchild.
The body is at the Haynes Funeral Home.

James Rowan, born 27 April 1874 Ohio County, KY; married Agnes Haskins (7 March 1886 – 28 February, 1938, buried Greenwood Cemetery, Owensboro, KY, daughter of Otha Haskins & Georgia Crow), 28 July 1898 Daviess County, KY and Julia Talbott Shively (9 October 1867 – 10 June 1951, daughter of Frank Talbott & Clarah Johnson) 1 November 1939 Daviess County, KY; Jim died 6 March 1961 Owensboro, KY, he & his wife, Julia, were buried Pleasant Point Baptist Church Cemetery, Pleasant Ridge County, Daviess County, KY. James & Agnes were parents of – James Harvey, Allie, Guy & Georgia.

Messenger-Inquirer, Owensboro, KY, Tuesday, 7 March 1961 p14:

● Negro Deaths

JIM ROWAN
 Jim Rowan, 87, of 1208 W. 5th St., died at 12:25 p.m. Monday at Our Lady of Mercy Hospital after an illness of three weeks. He was a retired farmer. Born in Ohio County, he had lived in Daviess County for seven years. He was a member and deacon of the New Hope Baptist Church.
 Surviving are one son, Ollie Rowan, Owensboro; one daughter, Mrs. Georgia Williams, Owensboro; one sister, Mrs. Julia Hayden, Owensboro; four grandchildren; one great-grandchild.
 The body is at the Griffith Funeral Home.

Fannie Rowan, born 5 July 1876 Ohio County, KY; married Spencer Sutherland (15 January 1882 – 15 June 1942, buried Bethlehem Baptist Church Cemetery, Utica, Daviess County, KY, son of Charles Sutherland & Charlotte Willis) 27 April 1904 Owensboro, Daviess County, KY; Fannie died 26 May 1953 Owensboro, KY; buried Greenwood Cemetery, Owensboro, Daviess County, KY. They were parents of – Suelottie M., James V. & Luetheada.

Messenger-Inquirer, Owensboro, KY, Wednesday, 27 May 1953 p6A:

Negro Deaths

Fannie Sutherland
 Fannie Sutherland, 65, Pettit, died in the Owensboro-Daviess County Hospital, following an illness of six days.
 She was born in Ohio County, July 5, 1887, but had lived in Owensboro and Daviess County most of her life. She was a member of the New Hope Baptist Church.
 Surviving are one daughter, Luetheada Jackson, Owensboro, J. V. Sutherland, of Pettit, granddaughter, three sisters, Minnie Folks, Julie Hayden, Mollie Jones, and one brother, Jim Rowan.
 The body was removed to the home of her son, J. V. Sutherland in Pettit.

Arthur Rowan, born 1 September 1879 Daviess County, KY; married Maude Roach / Grimes, 1 September 1909 Owensboro, Daviess County, KY; Arthur died 26 October 1930 Gary, Lake County, IN and was buried Oak Hill Memorial Park Cemetery, Gary, IN. Hey had a son, James Arthur Rowan (1906-1996).

Form V. 2. 2		INDIANA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH DIVISION OF VITAL STATISTICS	
PLACE OF DEATH County of <u>Lake</u>		Local No. <u>87-50</u>	
Township of <u>Calumet</u>		CERTIFICATE OF DEATH	
City of <u>Gary</u>		State Registered No. <u>30873</u>	
Date of Death <u>1964 Penn</u>		(If death occurred in a Hospital or Institution, give the NAME (instead of street and number.)	
TUSAL RESIDENCE (If death occurs away from usual residence give facts called for under "Special Information")		FULL NAME <u>Arthur Rowan</u>	
PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS		MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH	
SEX <u>Male</u>	Color <u>Lead</u>	Married <u>Married</u>	DATE OF DEATH <u>Oct 26 1930</u>
NAME OF HUSBAND OR WIFE (if deceased) <u>Maude Rowan</u>		I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from <u>10-24-1930</u> to <u>10-26-1930</u>	
DATE OF BIRTH <u>Sept 1 1879</u>	AGE <u>45</u>	that I last saw him alive on <u>10-24-1930</u> and that death occurred, on the date stated above, at <u>9 P.M.</u>	
OCCUPATION <u>Laborer</u>	PLACE OF DEATH <u>Owensboro Ky</u>	THE CAUSE OF DEATH was as follows: <u>Pulmonary Edema</u>	
BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER <u>Ohio County Ky</u>	BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER <u>Mary Richardson</u>	Contributory <u>Lobar Pneumonia</u>	
RESIDENCE <u>Gary, Ind</u>	PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL <u>Oak Hill Cem</u>	DATE OF BURIAL <u>10-27 1930</u>	
DEATH CERTIFICATE NO. <u>10-26-30</u>	EMERALD <u>2/153</u>	EMERALD'S LICENSE NO. <u>2/153</u>	

Mattie Rowan, born 19 August 1882 Daviess County, KY; married Charles Lewis Jones (1 September 1883 Daviess County, KY – April 1957 Chicago, Cook County, IL, son of Charles & Kittie Jones), 11 February 1903 Pettit, Daviess County, KY; died 1910-1948.



The documents on the following two pages are about George Rowan of Daviess County, KY (from Freedman's Bureau Records, 1865-1878, Internet - Ancestry.com). George served in the Union Army during the Civil War. He enlisted on 8 August 1864 as a private in the 118th US Colored Infantry (company A.). He married Ann on 30 April 1856 by Benjamin Newton. He died during 1864-1868. He and Ann had three children – Martha E. (born 15 May 1858), Aaron S. (born 12 November 1860) and George A. (born 19 April 1864).

State of Kentucky (Sch
County of Harlan)

On this the 30th day of
January, 1868, personally appeared before me
a Clerk of the said County Court in the State
of Kentucky, Wilson Stevens and Henry Barnett
who after being duly sworn depose and say
that they were ^{personally} well acquainted with George
Rowan (decd) late Port of A 118th Regt
and also his wife Ann Rowan and that
they were legally married in accordance with
the customs of that period, that they were
married on the 31st April 1866, by Benjamin Stewart
that they afterwards had three children, whose
ages & date of births are set opposite their re-
spective names =

Matthai E. Rowan. borned. May. 15th 1868.

Darwin S. Rowan. .. Nov. 12th 1860

George A. Rowan. April 19. 1864.

That there is no baptismal or other public record
of the births of said children and that the attending
Physician on the occasion of the births of the
said children is dead, they further state that
this information is derived from personal and intimate
acquaintance with the family and were living in
the same house and on the same plantation
and have known the parties for the last twenty
years, that they have no interest in this
claim and that the contents were read &
fully made known to them before signing &
making oath to same.

at test

Wilson Stevens

Henry Barnett

(over)

Sworn ^{and} Subscribed before me this the
20th day of January 1868. I certify that the
foregoing declaration was carefully read
and the contents fully made known &
explained to the affiants by me before them
each & severally signed the same and that I
have no interest in this claim against the
U. S. Government.

In testimony whereof I hereunto set
my hand & affixed seal this ²⁰ day of January 1868
Thos B Jones Clk
Davies County Court

January 20, 1868

Affiants

Wilson Stevens and

Henry Barrett

Remembers the Author Of "Old Kentucky Home."

Bardstown, May 15.—One of the most notable characters of Bardstown is "Uncle Mack" Rowan, an aged colored man who is very near the century mark. "Uncle Mack" was the property of Judge John Rowan, a man of national distinction, and was born and reared at "Federal Hill," near here.

He remembers Judge Rowan well, and claims to have witnessed the duel between the latter and Dr. Chambers. He was also present when the duel between John Rowan, Jr., and Hon. Tom Marshall was fought, and assisted in carrying Marshall from the field, after he was shot in the hip by young Rowan. He has a distinct remembrance of Henry Clay as a visitor to "Federal Hill," and can give a very good description of the "Great Commoner," as

he appeared at that time. Among other celebrities who visited the Rowan homestead, and whom "Uncle Mack" remembers, were Stephen Collins Foster and his sister. The former composed and wrote the famous song, "My Old Kentucky Home," while a guest at "Federal Hill."

"Uncle Mack" was a trusted servant; and, although he was seriously handicapped by deformed feet, he was active and performed his duties satisfactorily. For years he earned a living as a shoe cobbler, and notwithstanding his great age and failing eyesight he was, until a short time ago, quite an expert at his trade. In politics "Uncle Mack" is an uncompromising Democrat, and has always given his warm support to the nominees of his party.