

Kelley Cemetery

Ohio County, KY



Copied by Jerry Long on 9 November 1981

In Fordsville, KY take gravel road, Fordsville – Narrows Road, south. About one and one half miles at its junction with the Narrows – Graham Road turn left. About one half mile the cemetery is on hill behind a trailer. The property in 1981 was the residence of the late Robert Louis Berkley and in 1972 was owned by Fred Douglas Marlowe.

Born	Died
Kelley, David J. “age 42 years; Baptist minister and agent for the Ky. Baptist Assn.” [Note: David Jerrel; Kelley; born 22 March 1791; son of Rev. Benjamin Kelley & Nancy Jerrell; husband of Fanny Carter]	14 August 1834
Kelley, David J. “age 17 years” [Note: David Jerrel Kelley, Jr., born 13 March 1818; son of Rev. David Jerrel Kelley & Fanny Carter]	14 August 1834
Kelley, Luther C.	16 August 1834

“age 12 years”

[Note: Luther Calvin Kelley; born 17 November 1832; son of Rev. David Jerrel Kelley & Fanny Carter]

Kelley, George R. 18 August 1834
[Note: age 6; born 8 July 1828; son of Rev. David Jerrel Kelley & Fanny Carter]

Kelley, John C. 4 September 1834
“age 8”
[Note: John Calvin Kelley; born 13 June 1826; son of Rev. David Jerrel Kelley & Fanny Carter]

Kelley, William C. 5 September 1834
[Note: William Carter Kelley; age 4; born 22 July 1830; son of Rev. David Jerrel Kelley & Fanny Carter]

Kelley, Ann R. 17 August 1834
[Note: Ann Rush Kelley; age 18; born 26 February 1816; daughter of Rev. David Jerrel Kelley & Fanny Carter; also buried here but monument was not found on visit in 1981, found footstone with initials “A. R. K.”]

Smith, Elijah 16 January 1872
“age 65 years”
[Note: born 18 June 1805 Virginia; married Leanna Flood in 1831 in Shelby County, KY; moved in 1838 to Ohio County, KY, where he is listed in the 1840, 1850, 1860 & 1870 censuses]

Smith, Elijah 28 January 1865 19 June 1909
[Note: son of John William Smith & Mary M. Ambrose]

Smith, John W. 16 April 1835 21 December 1875
[Note: John William Smith; son of Elijah Smith & Leanna Flood; married Mary M. Ambrose in 1858 in Ohio County, KY]

Smith Leanna 8 November 1892
[Note: Leanna Flood; born 2 December 1814 Virginia; married Elijah Smith, 3 March 1831 Shelby County, KY; her obituary in the Hartford Herald (Hartford, KY, 7 December 1892, p.1) reported that “her husband and five children preceded her, he crossing the dark river of death June 16, 1872...., her remains were laid to rest in the old family burying ground”; she is also buried here but her monument was not found on visit in 1981]

Smith, Mary M., wife of John W, 10 June 1838 30 May 1883
[Note: Mary Maud Ambrose daughter of Henry Ambrose & Elizabeth Crow; married John William Smith in 1858 in Ohio County, KY; her obituary in the Hartford Herald (Hartford, KY, 13 June 1883, p.3) reported that “the remains were taken to the Elijah Smith graveyard, on the farm now owned by Wm. R. Jones, and lain by the side of her husband, John William

Smith, who preceded her December 21, 1875”; William R. Jones married in 1867 Louisa Alice Smith , a daughter of Elijah Smith & Leanna Flood]

Smith, Monroe E. 15 October 1869
[Note: age 4 in the 1860 Ohio County, KY census; son of Elijah Smith & Leanna Flood]

Truman, Elvira F., wife of Richard T. 28 January 1876
[Note: nee Mingus; born circa 1855; married Richard T. Truman 1875 in Ohio County, KY]

Wilson, Minerva E., wife of Jasper 21 June 1877
“age 38 years, 2 months & 11 days”
[Note: born 10 April 1839; daughter pf Edmund A. Truman & Amelia M. Neville]



**Rev. David Jerrel Kelley
(1791-1834)**

David Jerrel Kelley, son of Rev. Benjamin Kelley & Nancy Jerrell, was born 22 March 1791 in Amherst County, Virginia. His family moved from Virginia to Kentucky in the fall of 1798. They resided several years in Mercer County, KY prior to removing to Ohio County, KY. He is listed in the 1810, 1820 and 1830 federal censuses of Ohio County, KY.

In Ohio County David J. Kelley married Fanny Carter (1793-1875), 20 February 1810 (in list of Ohio County. KY marriage returns by Rev. Thomas Taylor). She was the daughter of William Carter & Katherine Williams and was born on 22 September 1793 in Virginia. In 1822 David J. Kelley represented Ohio County, KY in the Kentucky House of Representatives in Frankfort. On 25 February 1825 he was ordained a Baptist minister. He served as pastor of the Walton’s Creek Baptist Church, Beaver Dam Baptist Church, Cane Run Baptist Church and Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, all in Ohio County, KY.

David J. Kelley died on 14 August 1834 of flux and was buried on his family farm. He and his wife, Fanny, had twelve children. Between his death date and 5 September 1834 six of his children followed him to the grave. They died of the same illness and were interred in the Kelley family Cemetery. This left his widow and five children – Carter Jerrel, Moses C., Nancy Jerrel, Margaret C. and Benjamin Webster Kelley. Fanny Carter Kelly was living in the home of her son, Rev. Carter J. Kelley, at the time of the 1850 census of Ohio County, KY. She accompanied her children to Illinois. She died on 9 October 1875 in Salem, Marion County, IL, where she was buried.



**A History of Kentucky Baptists From 1769 to 1885, Volume II, J. H. Spencer
(Cincinnati, OH: J. R. Baumes, 1886) pp.315-316:**

David Jerrell Kelley, oldest son of Elder Benjamin Kelley, was born in Amherst county, Va., Mar. 22, 1791. He was raised by his maternal grandfather, after whom he was named. His grandfather being wealthy, young Kelley was raised up in idleness and self-indulgence, and became a way ward, self-willed boy. At the age of fifteen, he left his grandfather's home, in Mercer county, Ky., to visit his father in Ohio county. Arriving at Louisville, then a small village, he engaged as a laborer, in well digging. After a while, he engaged to go as a hand, on a perogue, loaded with whisky. This vessel descended the Ohio river to its mouth, and then ascended the Mississippi, to Cape Girardeau. From this point, he traveled on foot, through the territories of Illinois and Indiana, to Louisville, and thence to his grandfather's, without having visited his father. He remained with his grandfather, till his marriage to Fannie, daughter of William Carter of Ohio county, Feb. 10, 1810. After living in Ohio county a short time, he moved to Mercer county. Here he and his wife professed hope in Christ, and were baptized by Richard Shackelford, in 1812. Soon after this, he moved back to Ohio county, where he united with Mt. Pleasant church. Some years later, he became dissatisfied with the practice of "close communion," and was excluded from the church. After a time, becoming convinced of his error, he was restored to the fellowship of the church.

He was ordained to the ministry, by Thomas Downs, Ancil Hall and Simeon Buchanan, Jan. 25, 1825, and almost immediately called to the care of Mt. Pleasant church. To this congregation he administered, the remainder of his earthly life. He was also pastor of Beaver Dam, Waltons Creek, and Cane Run churches, all in Ohio county. In 1834, he and J. H. L. Moorman were appointed collecting agents for the Executive Board of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. They assumed the duties of that office, about the first of March, and sometimes together, and sometimes apart, prosecuted their labors, till the 17th of June, when Mr. Moorman suddenly died. Mr. Kelley continued his labors, till about the 20th of July, when he was attacked with fever. This was followed by a fatal flux, of which he and six of his family died, between the 13th of August and the 5th of September, 1834.

Mr. Kelley's early education was very limited ; but he had a good intellect, and was fond of books, and, after his marriage, applied himself to study and to teaching, until he became a fair English scholar. He was an eloquent speaker, a good pastor, and a man of active enterprise. He and his neighbor, Josiah Haynes — a man worthy to be remembered, organized a Sunday school, and a temperance society of 100 members, as early as 1830, and kept them alive as long as Mr. Kelley lived.



Record of Carter Jerrel Kelley

Rev. Carter Jerrel Kelley (1810-1880), son of David Jerrel Kelley (1791-1834) & Fanny Carter, was author of an autobiography. He commenced the history in 1854. In it he named many family members and early pioneers of Ohio, Hancock and Daviess Counties, Kentucky. It was originally printed under the title of Family History and Reminiscences. In 1979 the book was reprinted with the title of Record of Carter Jerrel Kelley, by McDowell Publications, of Hartford, KY (140 pages). On the following pages is what Rev. Carter J. Kelley wrote about his father (from pages 6-8,11-14 & 87-88):

Pages 6-8:

David Jerrel Kelley, oldest son of Elder Benjamin Kelley, was born in Amherst county, Va., March 22nd, 1791. He was raised by his maternal grandfather, after whom he was named. His grandfather being wealthy, young Kelley was raised up in idleness and self-indulgence, and became a wayward, self-willed boy. At the age of fifteen he left his grandfather's home in Mercer county, Kentucky, to visit his father in Ohio county. Arriving at Louisville, then a small village, he engaged as a laborer, in well digging. After a while he engaged to go as a hand on a perougue loaded with whisky. This vessel descended the Ohio river to its mouth, and then ascended the Mississippi to Cape Girardeau. From this point he traveled on foot through the territories of Illinois and Indiana, to Louisville and thence to his grandfather's, without having visited his father. He remained with his grandfather till his marriage to Fannie, daughter of William Carter, of Ohio county, February 10th, 1810. After living in Ohio county for a short time, he moved to Mercer county. Here he and his wife professed hope in Christ and were baptized by Robert Shackelford in 1812. Soon after this he moved back to Ohio county, where he united with Mr. Pleasant church. Some years later he became dissatisfied with the practice of "close communion" and was excluded from the church. After a time, becoming convinced of his error, he was restored to the fellowship of the church.

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Pages 11-14:

DAVID J. KELLEY

David J. Kelley, the father of the writer, was the eldest of the family, and was raised by his grandfather, David Jerrell, in Mercer county, Kentucky, from the time of his weaning. He was a very wild boy. Having very few restraints or duties imposed upon him, he would frequently run away from his grandfather and be gone for months; no one of his acquaintances, or relatives, having the slightest idea of his locality. On one occasion he descended the Ohio river in a keel boat to the mouth, and then vent u to Cape Girardeau. From thence he passed through the territory of Illinois to Vincennes, Indiana, from whence he made his way to Ohio county, Kentucky, to his fathers and on to his grandfather's.

When he was about seventeen years old he became peculiarly attached to Fannie, daughter of William and Katherine Carter, and was married to her while he was in, and very soon after he turned into his nineteenth year. He was still a wild and wicked young man, very stout, weighing about 165 pounds, very active and fearless, and quite sensitive, all of which led him into several general routs and riots. He was a warm hearted friend and divided to the last with a companion; enthusiastic, and never would stand and see a larger impose upon a smaller man; or join with a company, although friends, to ridicule a stranger.

He continued a wicked, thoughtless man until his eldest son, the writer, was a very small boy, indeed, and infant in his mother's arms, when riding on a journey from Ohio county (whither he had been on a visit with his wife to her father's) to his home in Mercer, his child was crying when he began cursing and called the child a d—d little d----l. The expression had but escaped his lips, when conviction seized with deep weight, from which he never found release, until the Lord in mercy set him free, in the pardon of his sins. Soon after he joined himself to the Baptist church.

After some years he became dissatisfied on the subject of communion, and the church pressing him to enter the ministry, he determined to withdraw from the church, and with Charles Huff, his then nearest neighbor, and a very pious man who had imbibed the same sentiments, he withdrew. The church was grieved and sought to bring them back but was unable to for a good many years. During this period he tried isms, among others Universalism. His case was indeed a warning to truant members. At last, he set himself to investigating the subject of communion, and became not only satisfied, but confirmed in the Bible truth that none but church members have a right to the Lord's Supper; and having ever believed that immersion, and immersion alone, was baptism, he immediately returned to the brethren from whom he had been so long separated, made a frank acknowledgement of his wrongs, and was joyously received into the bosom of the church. At the next meeting—if we are not mistaken, at least it was very soon after—he was licensed to preach and was soon ordained to the glorious work of the ministry.

From his ordination until he died he was the unflinching friend of Christ and His cause. Soon after, indeed immediately after his ordination, he was called to the care of the church of which he was a member, the pastoral care of which he retained until his death. he had the pastoral care of various other churches, both in the county of his residence, and in other places. We should have noticed that previous to his coming back to the church, he consented to become a candidate for the office of Representative in the lower branch of the legislature. Being elected, he served one term, and the next year was beaten for the same office by nine votes. The next year, having been ordained to the work of the ministry, he declined a warm solicitation, knowing that he must, to fill the office, if elected, doff the clerical robe.

In his ministry he was bold and fearless, ever ready to meet error wherever it might make its appearance and in whatever form, yet with proverbial kindness. In doctrine he maintained that Christ tasted death for every man; that the gospel was given to the world for the edification of the same; that faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God; and that without faith it is impossible to please God; and that therefore, the gospel must be preached in order to a belief of the truth, without which no man can see God in peace. Hence, therefore, he was a missionary in the fullest acceptance of the term.

He was engaged by the Kentucky State Baptist Association to ride and preach in the Green River portion of Kentucky with Eld. James H. L. Moreman and, if we be not mistaken, William Warder. They had been in the employ of the Board only about four months, some of them perhaps not so long, at \$400 per annum when the Lord was pleased to call them away from their labors.

Elders Kelley and Moreman were accustomed to travel tag together in their missionary labors. Moreman was taken ill on one of their tours, and was advised by Kelley to return home, which he did, and soon died—indeed we are not certain that he ever reached home. Eld. Kelley continued on his journey and was, in the course of a week or two, taken ill, at least did not feel very well, went home, was soon confined to a bed of illness from which he never recovered. He had become convalescent from his first attack, and doubtless would have recovered, but for the flux which entered his family at this critical time in its most malignant form. It first attacked a son, nearly grown, next himself, next a daughter, and the entire family in a few days were prostrated; seven of whom fell victims from August 14th, to September 4th, 1832 [sic – should be 1834]. Himself and the eldest son died the same day, only one hour intervening. There was perhaps but one day intervening, in which there was not a death, until, five had departed this life. There was then some hope for the remainder; but alas! it stopped not in its career until it laid seven of the family under the sod, leaving the wife and mother with five children, three sons and two daughters, to mourn their loss. He was born March 22nd, 1792, and died August 14th, 1834, aged forty-two years. His widow, the mother of the writer, was about two years his junior, and was now left to do for three small children, the other two, Carter, the writer, who is the eldest, and Moses being grown....

Pages 87-88:

BIRTHS OF DAVID J. KELLEY AND FAMILY.

David J. Kelley was born March 22nd, 1791.

Fanny C. Kelley his wife was born September 22nd, 1793. David J. Kelley and Fanny Carter were married February 20th, 1810.

Carter J. Kelley, eldest son of David and Fanny was born December 18th, 1810.

Benjamin H. Kelley was born September 5th, 1812.

Moses C. Kelley was born June 13th, 1814.

Ann R. Kelley was born February 26th, 1816.

David J. Kelley was born March 13th, 1818.

Nancy J. Kelley was born February 13th, 1820.

Peggy C. Kelley was born March 29th, 1822.

Ben Kelley was born July 28th, 1824.

John R. Kelley was born June 13th, 1826.

George R. Kelley was born July 8th, 1828.

William Carter Kelley was born July 22, 1830.

Luther Calvin Kelley was born November 17th, 1832.

Author's Note:—The first Ben Kelley died before he was one year old and after many years my parents named another son, Ben; the first Benjamin, the last simply Ben. The first was named for his uncle, father's brother, the other for his grandfather, father's father.

DEATHS OF THE FAMILY OF DAVID J. AND FANNY KELLEY.

David Jerrel Kelley, Sr. died August 14th, 1834.

David J. Kelley. Jr. died August 14th, 1834 (Just an hour between father and son.)

Luther C. Kelley died August 16th, 1834.

Ann R. Kelley died August 17th, 1834.

George R. Kelley, August 18th, 1834.

John Calvin Kelley died September 4th, 1834.
William Carter Kelley died September 5th, 1834.
Moses C. Kelley died June 10th, 1863.

OBITUARY OF FANNY CARTER KELLEY

Fanny Carter Kelley, widow of Rev. David Jerrel Kelley died October 9th, 1875, aged 82 years and 16 days. She died at the home of B. R. and Nancy J. Kelley, son-in-law and daughter, in Marion county, Illinois and was buried in the cemetery of that city. She lived a widow from the death of her husband to her own, 41 years, 1 month and 26 days. She never desired a second marriage, seldom ever even suffered any to suggest it and never voluntarily spoke of it herself. She was truly in the strictest sense of the term, a widow. I have heard my mother often say that I never spoke a word to her in life that wounded her feelings or that gave the least offense whatever. And now that my dear mother has passed beyond the possibility of such a thing, I can but feel proud of such a record. My mother made her home with me for many years, that is called it home, though she was often elsewhere with friends and the other children.



Fanny Carter Kelley
Born September 23, 1793
Died October 9, 1875
Wife of Rev. David J. Kelley

