

Samuel & Harriet (Phelon) Bryant Family Bible

By Jerry Long



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Research Association (Utica, KY: McDowell Publications, 1992), 97-99:**

Samuel Bryant & Harriet Phelon Family Bible

On 3 October 1992 Jerry Long, of Owensboro, Ky., purchased family bible, at an auction of the estate of Wilhelmina Leachman Lebold (1916-1992), deceased, at her home on the Baird Road in Daviess County, KY.

Holy Bible, c. 1840 by H. & E. Phinney, Cooperstown, NY.

Rawleigh D. Bryant was born 27 February 1797.

Ruth Griffith was born 25 March 1797.

Samuel Bryant was born 13 December 1822.

Sarah Jane Bryant was born 18 February 1824.

Caleb G. Bryant was born 24 August 1827.

Grace was born 15 July 1833.

Lucinda was born 29 August 1852.

William Henry was born 30 November 1843.

Grace Bryant was born 28 November 1867.

Samuel Bryant died 14 April 1858, age 92 yrs. & 2 days.

Greenberry Griffith died 22 June 1863.

Caleb G. Bryant died 24 September 1888, age 61 yrs. & 1 month.

Rawleigh D. Bryant & Ruth Griffith were married 24 January 1822.

Samuel Bryant & Harriet Phelon were married 17 December 1857.

Raleigh D. Bryant & Emma G. Taylor were married 5 January 1882.

Additional notes by Jerry Long:

Rawleigh D. Bryant (died 18 May 1866), his wife, Ruth Griffith (died 20 June 1873), their sons, Samuel Bryant (died 4 June 1897) and Caleb Griffith Bryant (died 24 September 1888), and Samuel Bryant's wife, Harriet Phelon (born 15 September 1828 died 16 July 1887; daughter of John M. Phelon & Rebecca Holt) all have monuments in the Macedonia Baptist Church Cemetery, near Dermont, on Miller's Mill Road, in Daviess County, KY.

The following biography of Samuel Bryant was published in the 1883 History of Daviess County, Kentucky (Interstate Publishing Co., Chicago), p.641:

Samuel Bryant, son of Rawleigh D. and Ruth (Griffith) Bryant, was born Dec. 13, 1822, in Shelby County, Ky. His father was a farmer. When Samuel was fifteen months old his parents removed to Daviess County settling five miles south of Owensboro, on the Hartford road. He was educated in the district schools of Daviess County, working meanwhile on his father's farm. He lived with his father until he was thirty-five years old, when he married, Dec. 17, 1857, Harriet Phelon, a native of Shelby County, Ky. After his marriage he purchased a farm of 229 acres on the Litchfield road, three and a half miles from Owensboro, where he still resides. He has since purchased forty acres of land on Panther Creek. Mrs. Bryant is a member of the Baptist church. Mr. Bryant is recognized as one of the substantial farmers of the county, and by earnest industry and square dealing has made for himself a reputation of which he may well feel proud. They have but one child, Raleigh D., who is married and now lives at home with his parents. In politics Mr. Bryant is a Democrat.



History of Kentucky, Volume III, Judge Charles Kerr, ed.,
(Chicago & New York: The American Historical Society, 1922), pp.87-88:

Raleigh Daviess Bryant. Not only is farming the oldest occupation of man, but it is now recognized as the most important of the basic industries, and a number of the foremost men of the country are proud of the fact that their lives have been spent in agricultural activities, for they realize that in such they have been useful citizens. One of the men of Daviess County who is deserving of special mention in this connection is Raleigh Daviess Bryant, one of the prosperous farmers on the Leitchfield Road, not far from Owensboro.

He was born on his present property, known as the "Brookside Farm," three miles from Owensboro, November 26, 1858, a son of Samuel and Harriet (Phelon) Bryant. Samuel Bryant was born December 13, 1822, in Shelby County, Kentucky, a son of Raleigh D. Bryant, a native of Warsaw, North Wales, to which locality his father, Samuel Bryant, had moved from Ireland. The family came to the American Colonies in 1774, locating in Maryland, removal later being made to Shelby County, Kentucky, where Samuel Bryant died in 1858, at the extreme old age of ninety-six years. Raleigh D. Bryant, grandfather of Raleigh Daviess Bryant, his namesake, was the eldest son of Samuel Bryant, and was married while still living in Maryland to Ruth Griffith, a daughter of Caleb Griffith, a brother of Joshua Griffith, who was a pioneer of Daviess County, to which he moved in 1823, and lived here until his death in 1865, when seventy-six years of age. Upon coming to this county Raleigh D. Bryant settled near the Macedonia Church, about a mile from what is now the Oak Ridge station on the Illinois Central Railroad. Two sons were born to him, Caleb Griffith Bryant and Samuel Bryant, and one daughter, Jane, who married J. H. Williams and settled near the Pleasant Grove Church. Caleb Griffith Bryant died unmarried.

Samuel Bryant settled on the farm now occupied by his son in 1857, and that year was married to Harriet Phelon, a daughter of John M. and Rebecca (Holt) Phelon. Mrs. Bryant was born in Shelby County, Kentucky, but was brought when still a child by her parents to Daviess County, Kentucky. Her death occurred June 20, 1889, when she was sixty-four years old, her husband surviving her until June 20, 1898, when he too passed away.

Raleigh Daviess Bryant was the only son of his parents, and was reared on the farm where he was born. His parents gave him excellent educational advantages and he is a cultured man, thoroughly abreast of the times. From his youth he has devoted himself to farming, and his success as an agriculturalist has been marked.

On January 5, 1882, Mr. Bryant was united in marriage with Emma Taylor, who was born in Daviess County, Kentucky, March 13, 1859, a daughter of Jefferson and Louisa (Carlin) Taylor. Jefferson Taylor was born in Jefferson County, Kentucky, and was a cousin of Zachary Taylor, who became President of the United States in 1849. After coming to Daviess County, Jefferson Taylor operated a flour-mill on Panther Creek near Habit. Mr. and Mrs. Bryant became the parents of the following children: Hortense, who married Dr. J. A. Kirk, of Owensboro; Hugh M., who was engaged with his father in operating the homestead, died December 1, 1917, when he was thirty-two years of age; William E., who is engaged in an insurance business at Owensboro; Harriet Louise, who was one of the popular educators of Daviess County, is now in the office of the Kentucky State Board of Examiners at Frankfort, and is a lady of unusual attainments and mental development; Samuel J., who is on his father's farm; Ruth, who is a teacher in a commercial school, is also unusually intellectual; and James R, who is attending Purdue University, taking a course in mechanical engineering. Samuel J. Bryant is a veteran of the great war, having served as motor mechanic in the Three Hundred and Twenty-seventh Artillery, Eighty-first Division. He went overseas and served in France with his organization from August, 1918, until February, 1919, when he was returned to the United States and honorably discharged. Fortunately he came back in safety after having served his country as a brave and gallant soldier, and because of the fact that he risked his life for it, will hold his native land all the dearer the remainder of his life.

In his political faith Mr. Bryant is a republican, but has limited his public service to casting his vote for the candidates of his party. He and all of his family are members of the Baptist Church. In view of the poor quality of articles manufactured today, it is interesting to note that Mr. Bryant has in his possession a coat of Fuller's cloth which was made for his great-grandfather in Warsaw, Wales, 150 years ago, and brought by him to the American Colonies in 1774. This garment has been handed down to the eldest son in each generation, and is still in fairly good condition. Mr. Bryant also owns a razor hone which belonged to Samuel Bryant, and one which has been handed down in the Griffith family. These heirlooms are highly valued in the Bryant household because of family associations, but they are of interest to outsiders because of their quality and workmanship, both of which reflect rather discreditably upon modern production.



Owensboro Messenger, Owensboro, KY, Saturday, 5 June 1897, p.5:

Deaths

Mr. Samuel Bryant, one of Daviess county's oldest and most highly respected citizens, died last night at the home of his only child, Mr. Rolla Bryant, of the Cruston neighborhood, at 2:30 o'clock. Mr. Bryant had for some time been a sufferer from chronic stomach troubles and diarrhea and these were the immediate cause of his death. Mr. Bryant has always been a resident

of Daviess county. Surviving him is one son, Mr. Rolla Bryant, a well known farmer, and a sister, Mrs. J. H. Williams, of the Pleasant Grove neighborhood.



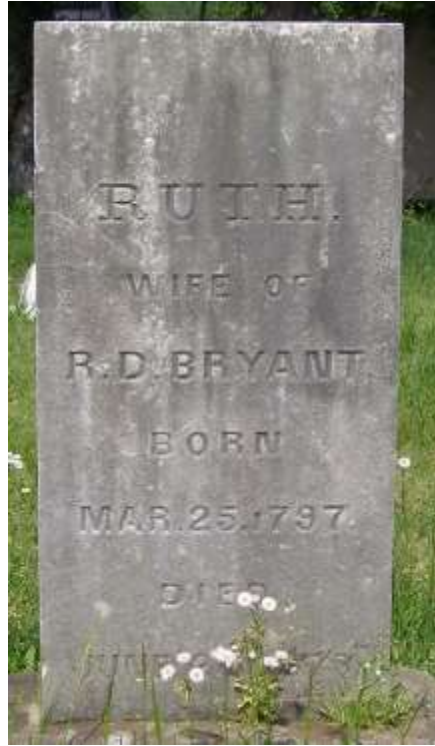
Graves at Macedonia Baptist Church Cemetery, Daviess County, KY:



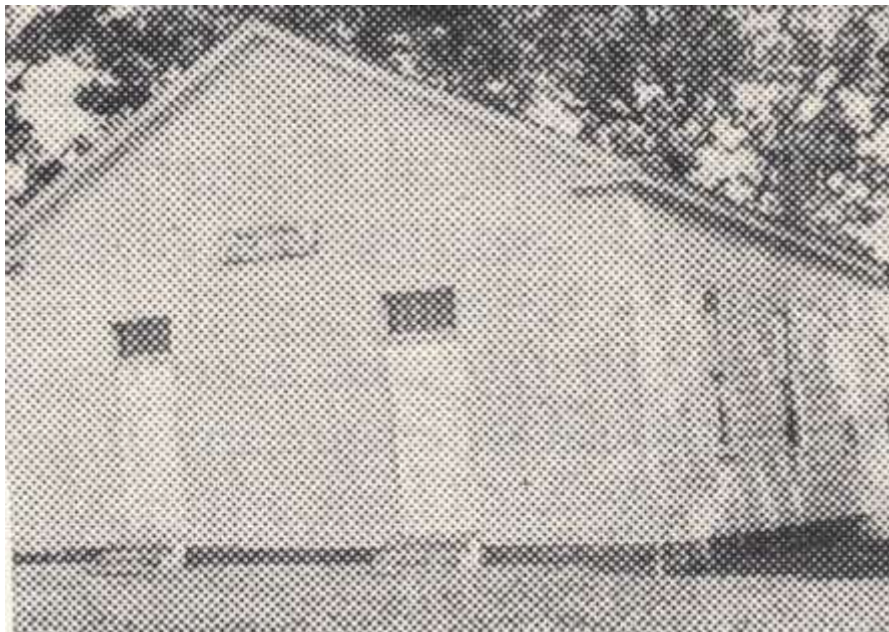
Samuel Bryant (1822-1897) & Harriet Phelon Bryant (1828-1887)



Raleigh Daviess Bryant (1858-1934)



Raleigh Daviess Bryant (1797-1866) & Ruth Griffith Bryant (1897-1873)



Macedonia Baptist Church erected in 1868

