

The Kenton County Historical Society

8-91



August

## Kenton County Historical Society

P O Box 841  
Covington, Kentucky 41011

R E V I E W

August 1991

### ANNUAL MEETING WITH PROGRAM OF THE KENTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

(free and open to the public)

On Tuesday evening, September 10, 7:00 PM, at the  
Kenton County Public Library, Dr. Joe Nickell will  
speak on the topic,

#### PEN, INK, AND FORGERY

An expert on the detection of forgery, Dr. Nickell  
has written a definitive book on the topic, and is  
considered an expert in certain investigative  
techniques. Dr. Nickell has refined the practice  
of authenticating signatures, as well as documents  
and photographs. A teacher of technical writing  
at the University of Kentucky, Dr. Nickell has  
also delved into such mysteries as the Shroud of  
Turin and such claims as the sighting of ghosts  
and haunted houses.

There will be a short business meeting before the  
program including final nomination and election of  
office holders for the next year. The program is  
sponsored by the Kentucky Humanities Council and  
by the Kenton County Historical Society. Anyone  
interested in the program or agenda is welcome to  
attend.

Tuesday evening

September 10

7:00 PM

Kenton County Public Library

Fifth and Scott streets

Covington

### MEMBERSHIP

For only \$5.00 per year you may help support the  
collection and display of local history organized  
and aided by the Kenton County Historical Society.

A HISTORY OF THE STAINED GLASS WINDOWS AND THE TRIBES  
OF ISRAEL OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 120 EAST NINTH STREET  
COVINGTON, KENTUCKY--BY THEODORE H. H. HARRIS

Organized by the Reverend George Dupree, D. D., in August 1864 with 22 charter members,<sup>1</sup> the First Baptist Church of Covington, Kentucky is one of the oldest in the city.<sup>2</sup> After moving several times, the church purchased a site on West Thirteenth Street and constructed a church building in 1877. The church stayed at that location until July 7, 1915 when the building was destroyed by a tornado.<sup>3</sup>

When First Baptist was located on West Thirteenth Street (between Chesapeake and Russell Streets), Reverend Locust was the pastor. After the tornado destroyed the church another site was selected and purchased in August, 1916 at its present location on East Ninth Street.

The corner stone was laid in 1916, and the dedication was held April 8, 1917. However, before the church left West Thirteenth Street, it was decided to have stained glass windows in the new church. But then the question of cost arose. It was agreed that the windows could be donated in memory of a loved one, a friend, or a church auxiliary. In 1916, the cost of a window was from \$25.00 to \$100.00 for large ones.<sup>4</sup>

The windows were donated by the Tribes of Israel, Church Aid Society, Sunday School, church choir, and by members and their families. The twelve Tribes of Israel as described in Genesis 49:1-28, was organized by Reverend Locust when the church was on West Thirteenth Street. The Tribes every year had a rally to raise money.<sup>5</sup> Although only four (Asher, Simeon, Judah, and Gad) were able to raise enough to donate windows, all twelve Tribes were active in the Church with each member paying twenty-five cents per month dues. At the present time there are only two members of the Tribes still in Covington, Mrs. Viola Bryant and Mrs. Mary Stribling. There are a few relatives of the church members and church auxiliary members who donated windows who are still members of First Baptist Church: Jecolia Thornton, Sarah Thornton, Allena Lee, Lizzie K. Delaney, Ada Delaney, John and Elizabeth B. Delaney, John W. Delaney, Jr.,<sup>6</sup> Bettie Shenault, Mrs Bea Talley;<sup>7</sup> Allena Harris Lee, Werlie J. Richardson, Janie Smith, Theodore Harris.

<sup>1</sup>Masters, Frank M. A History of Baptists in Kentucky. (Louisville, Kentucky: Kentucky Baptist Historical Society, 1953), pp. 346-347. Reverend Dupree, D. D., was ordained by Dr. J. M. Frost, pastor at Georgetown, Kentucky, and President J. L. Reynolds, of Georgetown College, Kentucky. In 1856, while still preaching in Georgetown, Kentucky, Reverend Dupree was sold at auction at the Courthouse door. Dr. W. M. Pratt, pastor at Lexington, Kentucky and others bought him and permitted him to purchase his freedom.

<sup>2</sup>First Baptist Church was on the tour route of the oldest churches in Covington, Kentucky on April 15, 1990, in observance of Kenton County's 150th anniversary.

<sup>3</sup>First Baptist Church's 125th anniversary, August 20-27, 1989.

<sup>4</sup>Mrs. Viola Bryant of Covington, Kentucky at present 97 years of age, interviewed by author, April 3, 1990, Covington, Kentucky.

<sup>5</sup>Mrs. Mary Stribling of Covington, Kentucky at present 94 years of age, interviewed by the author, June 5, 1990, Covington, Kentucky

<sup>6</sup>John W. Delaney of Covington, Kentucky, interviewed by author, April 9, 1990, Covington, Kentucky.

<sup>7</sup>Mrs. Bes Talley of Covington, Kentucky, interviewed by author, April 9, 1990, Covington, Kentucky.

(Prepared for the First Baptist Church, 120 East 9th Street, Covington, Kentucky, JUNE 1990)

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NAMES ON THE STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

ALLENA HARRIS LEE

TRIBE OF ASHER  
ROSA A. TAYLOR, CAPT  
MARY E. MORGAN, SECY

GEORGIA A. MOORE, LIU  
STELLA WAGNER, TREAS

WERLIE J. RICHARDSON TO JOHN AND LUCY RICHARDSON

MRS. KATIE B. YOUNG

JOHN W. DELANEY, SR., ELIZABETH B. DELANEY, JOHN W. DELANEY, JR.

WERLIE J. RICHARDSON TO LOTTIE RICHARDSON WIFE

TRIBE OF SIMEON  
MARY EARDY, CAPT  
JECOLIA THORNTON, SECY

HENRY DAVIS, LIU  
CHARLES DIENL, TREAS

MARY ELIZABETH WALKER BY SON AND DAUGHTER

JOHN HUMPHREY BY MARY ELIZABETH HUMPHREY

TO MOTHER KATIE CHINN BY ALICE AND EDNA CHINN

CHURCH AID SOCIETY  
BARAN THORNTON, PRES

BETTIE LACY, SECY

MILLIE RICE, TREAS

DONATED BY MRS. THOMAS YOUNG AND FAMILY

GIFT OF FANNY REHNEKER AND NAOMI STEVEN

TRIBE OF JUDAH  
KATIE BRYANT, CAPT  
VIOLA ROBINSON, SECY

MATTIE TOLIVER, LIU  
ALLENA LEE, TREAS

DONATED BY MRS. LISSIE CONLY AND FAMILY

DONATED BY DEACON THOMAS HOWARD AND FAMILY

TRIBE OF GAD  
NOLLIE WHITE, CAPT  
KELL McCARTY, SECY

HENRIETTA WALLS, LIU  
ADDIE WALKER, TREAS

IN MEMORY OF DEACON JOHN LOUIS ROBINSON BY WIFE AND DAUGHTER

A MEMORIAL TO FATHER AND MOTHER DENNIS AND RUTH DELANEY BY LISSIE E. DELANEY

SUNDAY SCHOOL  
KATIE E. YOUNG, SUPT  
ANNA MAE JOHNSON, ORGANIST

EFFIE YOUNG, SECY  
J.W. SHEARER, TREAS

A MEMORIAL TO MOTHER LUCY DePOLLIAN BY MATTIE SINGERMAN

GIFT OF BETTIE SRENAULT

GIFT OF GEORGE AND ANN MAE JOHNSON

IN HONOR OF MRS. LAURA JOHNSON BY MARY AND ROBERT

GIFT OF MR. AND MRS. CLAUDE SLAUGHTER

DONATED BY AMY ANDERSON

IN HONOR OF JAMIE SMITH, SR. BY JAMIE SMITH, JR.

CHOIR  
HENRY JACKSON, PRES  
JAMIE SMITH, ORGANIST

ADA DELANEY, SECY  
MONTANA HARDEE, TREAS

DONATED BY MR. AND MRS. GOS CHERRY

A MEMORIAL TO FATHER GEORGE WASHINGTON ALLEN BY DAUGHTER

## SPECIAL SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

On Tuesday evening, September 24, at 7:00 PM at Mother of God Church in the basement undercroft B. H. F. HELLEBUSCH, PROFESSIONAL TEACHER, COMPOSER, AND HYMNAL EDITOR OF MUSIC FOR GERMAN SPEAKING CATHOLICS will be featured in a multi-faceted program. Ms. Julia Hellebusch, his great-great granddaughter-in-law, and a Thomas More College graduate, will speak on the life and impact of this once nationally known musician. Organist Carol Jenkins will play a few of his pieces, and there will be a tour of the church including a look at the pipe organ Hellebusch had a hand in installing in Mother of God in 1876.

Tuesday evening

September 24

Mother of God Church (basement--enter on the right side facing the church from the street) Sixth Street, Covington

7:00 PM

## NOTES

On Tuesday evening, October 8, Dr. Joe Gastright is scheduled to speak on Joseph Rodes Buchanan and "Wonderful Science" (including phrenology). Dr. Buchanan became nationally known as an author and he enjoyed much influence as an advocate and expert on the channeling of spirits while a resident of Covington.

Historical organizations are invited to another regional meeting of the Historical Confederation of Kentucky (an affiliate of the Kentucky Historical Society) scheduled for Saturday, October 26, 9:30 AM at the Boone County Library, Florence, Kentucky on Highway 42 next to the Municipal building.

On Wednesday evening August 14, Mr. Roger Adams presented original research on Civil War fortifications in Northern Kentucky and on the Confederate threat to Cincinnati, Covington and Newport. And Mr. Ted Harris spoke and presented a paper on B. F. Howard, Covington founder of the national black Elks.

Kenton County Historical Society  
P. O. Box 641  
Covington, Ky 41012

Kenton County Sesquicentennial-1990  
State of Kentucky Bicentennial-1992

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