



Bulletin of the Kenton County Historical Society

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P.O. Box 641, Covington, Kentucky 41012-0641 (859) 491-4003

November / December

2012



Gray and Hemingray Glass Company
Enterprise and Relationships

Western Baptist Theological Seminary

Lee Roy Reams

The Gray and Hemingray Glass Company Enterprise and Relationships

Karl Lietzenmayer

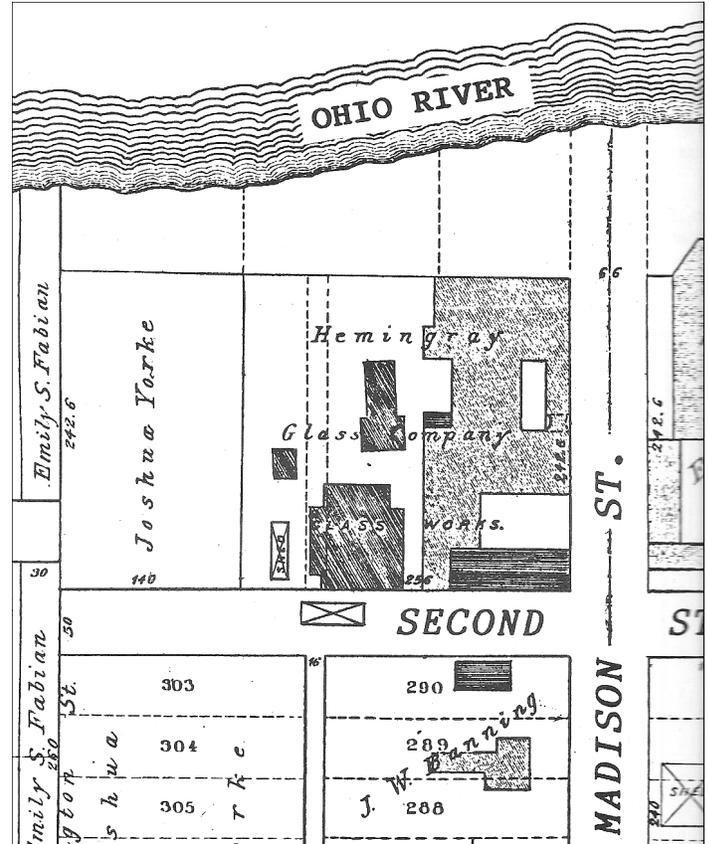
We include the story of the Hemingray Glass Company and its forerunners at this time to celebrate their enterprise which will soon be identified with an historic highway marker, recently approved by the Kentucky Transportation Department.

Two close families, the Grays and Hemingrays, arrived in Cincinnati from Pennsylvania. Not much is known about these enterprising families before their arrival in 1847, although there is some evidence they were already into glass-making in Pittsburgh before the move.

Ralph Gray married an Irish Lass, Ann Friar, born in 1812 on the Emerald Isle. No known children resulted from this union. Ralph teamed up with his brother Anthony to join the Hemingrays - Samuel and Robert, in Pennsylvania. Samuel J. and Robert Hemingray were the second and third of six children born to William and Ann Johnson Hemingray. William farmed in the Johnstown, Pennsylvania vicinity before moving to Pittsburgh about 1822 to run a small store. Samuel was born in England in 1815, which gives some idea when the family immigrated to America.

The Hemingray family originated in Derbyshire, England, and the Grays were also from England. According to birth records, both families arrived near Johnstown, Pennsylvania between 1817 and 1821. Ralph Gray was brought as an infant from England, but his brother Anthony was born in Pennsylvania. There seems to have been a closer relationship between these two families than is usually found with business partners. This bond is reflected in their children's names as they cared for each other's family upon untimely deaths.

Soon after a great fire in Pittsburgh in 1845, the Grays and Hemingrays arrived in this area, most likely by steamboat. In 1848, they succeeded in establishing the *Gray & Hemingray Glass Company* on prop-



Above: Map of Covington, showing Hemingray Glass Co. (courtesy: the Kenton County Public Library)

On the Cover: Image of Robert Hemingray's home at 211 Garrard Street (courtesy: Karl Lietzenmayer)

erty in Cincinnati about five blocks from the Ohio River on Hammond Street - a short north-south street between Third and Fourth, parallel to Main and Sycamore. In the early years, the two families lived together in a rented apartment close to the glass works. Their small firm grew quickly. Though Samuel Hemingray is listed as the bookkeeper, it is unclear what role each played in the glass works beginnings. No official titles are evident, but Robert Hemingray seems to have been in charge.

Still at Hammond Street, by 1851, the company was employing 138 males (over 16 years old) and four females (over 15). In this age of worker ex-



Robert Hemingray
courtesy: the Kenton County Library

ploitation, 67 children were also employed. After the Civil War, glassblowing craftsmen appear to have unionized, including affiliation with Samuel Gomper's *Knights of Labor* organization. The greatest number of non-local American-born workers came from Pennsylvania.

When they arrived in Cincinnati, their immediate preference

for their enterprise was a Covington site, but problems obtaining a clear title to Covington property caused them to turn to Cincinnati. Previous efforts by others to make glass products in the Cincinnati area had always failed for one reason or another. However, the time was ripe for Gray and Hemingray, as they found the market hungry for their products. Good management and well-made products enabled them to prosper.

The two entrepreneurs continued to work on obtaining clear title to the Covington site at Second and Madison which was their first choice on their initial visit here in 1846. Finally, on August 20, 1852, a clear deed was acquired on their preferred site. By 1853, they were manufacturing glass articles on the Covington side, while retaining the Cincinnati plant.

In 1857, Anthony Gray and Samuel Hemingray became partners with Robert Hemingray, causing the company's first name change: *Gray, Hemingray & Brothers*. Four years later, in 1861, it changed again to *Gray, Hemingray & Brother* because Anthony Gray was no longer active in the firm. This name lasted but a short time, as Ralph died in 1863, changing to *R. Hemingray Brothers & Company*. Two associate officers were added: Richard Evans and James Foley. Their role is discussed briefly below.

In September 1866, Samuel Hemingray died and the firm took on its fifth name: *R. Hemingray &*

Company, which lasted only two years to be superseded by the sixth and final name: *Hemingray Glass Company*. There was also a company warehouse at 68 Walnut Street, Cincinnati.

Electricity "Electrifies" the Firm

The beginnings of telegraph use in 1847 gave reason for company production of glass insulators and, beginning in the 1870s, new Hemingray patented procedures over two decades reflected emphasis on production of telephone pole insulators.

Insulators had been made of numerous materials – porcelain, wood, rubber – and in modern times, polyethylene, fiberglass, and composition. However, glass insulators were most popular on Northern American lines as well as other countries. The use of glass for electrical insulators provides a material with high dielectric strength and freedom from deterioration.

Patent Fight

The Hemingray Company received a patent for the process of forming the threaded cavity in the insulator but a man named Homer Brooke contested it since both were issued patents for a similar process just 22 months apart. The two processes were slightly different. Brooke's procedure involved a step which required rotating the insulator in a downward motion whereas Hemingray's eliminated that step.

The court battle of 1871 was a three-day fight between competitors James Brookfield and Robert Hemingray and Homer Brooke, a machinist and mold manufacturer for glass companies. Brookfield and Hemingray were both producing insulators using what was called the Cauvet Patent. There also seems to be evidence in the testimony that the Patent Office erroneously gave permission for patent use to both companies. The details are still unclear but what is certain, this patent provided a significant boost for Hemingray, who made several improvements which resulted in an easier-to-use press by June 1881.

Fuel Sources

The industry had switched from wood to coal as primary fuel and the Covington site near the river provided shipping access. Economical barge trans-

port brought raw materials and shipped finished products easily. Company records show Hemingray was receiving sand from Missouri and lead from Illinois, also pearl ash, feldspar and clay. In 1870, they consumed 85,000 bushels of coal.

Early advertisements reveal that Gray & Hemingray produced a wide variety of glassware. Foremost in their inventory were perfume bottles, lamps, and fruit jars. Other products were: soda water and beer bottles; medicine bottles and pharmaceutical supplies (few were marked with the Gray & Hemingray name); fruit jars (including their *Globe* jar and G&H monogram jars); decanters; tumblers; pickle bottles, and lamp glass. Perhaps the greatest selling products were oil lamps.

Shown in the 1870 tax records were also perfumery containers, greenware and other non-glass items such as: flatware, lightening rods, tinware and apothecary shop furniture.

As mentioned, Anthony Gray left the company during late 1860 or early 1861, but prior to Ralph Gray's death. He worked as a glass blower and it is surmised he could no longer tolerate the rigors of the glass house due to health problems. He died on April 27, 1865. He was never a partner and apparently did not share in the wealth beginning to be enjoyed by his brother Ralph and Robert Hemingray.

The Gray & Hemingray era ended when Ralph Gray died 10 November 1863 - in the midst of the Civil War. His death caused serious financial and management problems for the Hemingray family, since his will stipulated his interest in the glass works be sold and proceeds invested in real estate for benefit of his widow. The Hemingray family fought the terms of his will vigorously and prevented the sale of Ralph Gray's portion. Ralph's one-half interest was acquired by Samuel J. Hemingray, Robert's elder brother; Joseph C. Hemingray, Robert's younger brother; Richard Evans, Robert's brother-in-law; and James L. Foley, a local Civil War hero. Joseph Hemingray, a Leavenworth, Kansas banker and attorney, sold his 1/8 interest to Richard Evans and James Foley about a year later. Evans was connected to the Hemingrays with his marriage to Jane Hemingray,

younger sister of Robert and Samuel. One officer who was *not* related, Foley joined the company in 1864 and managed the St. Louis office from 1873-78. When the company left Covington, Foley retired.

Bradford Shinkle

Bradford Shinkle married a daughter of Robert and Mary Hemingray - Anna Johnson Hemingray. Bradford, the son of Amos Shinkle, had already become the chief officer of the Suspension Bridge Company after his father's death. After two children, Anna died of a paralysis at age 39. Bradford subsequently married her sister, Mary Ann Hemingray. One son, Bradford, Jr. was born of this union. The Shinkles had a piece of the action of almost everything in Covington and being an officer in the Hemingray business was just one. According to E. Polk Johnson's *History of Kentuckians, Volume II*, Bradford was involved in the following: President of the Suspension Bridge Company; President of the Champion Ice Company; Director: First National Bank of Covington (his father's bank); Fifth/Third Bank Board, Cincinnati; Cincinnati Leaf Tobacco Warehouse Company Board; Columbia Life Insurance Company Board; Central Trust Deposit Bank Board, Cincinnati; Shinkle, Wilson & Kreis Law Firm, Partner; President of Board of Directors, Covington Children's Home; Member of Queen City Club; and Member of Commercial Club, Cincinnati.

After Robert Hemingray, Junior's untimely death in 1901, Bradford became vice-president of the Hemingray Glass Company until his own death in 1909, age 63. Much like vested royalty, Bradford's son Amos Clifford, Junior (1877-1944), inherited the Glass company vice-presidency upon his father's death and held that post until the company was purchased by the Owens-Illinois Company in 1933. A.C. Shinkle, as he was known, was a generous man in civic affairs as was the tradition of the Shinkle family.

Muncie, Indiana & Cheap Fuel

A major fire damaged the plant in 1872. Floods of the Ohio River were severe in 1883 (66 ft) and 1884 (71 ft) and damaged the property extensively. However, the unusually high water did not directly motivate the final closing of the plant. In the late 1800s, natural gas became available in Indiana

and in 1888, Hemingray purchased a site in Muncie and proceeded to relocate manufacturing. The Hemingray offices and a warehouse remained in Covington until 1919. The Muncie plant covered 12 acres, much enlarged compared to the Covington facility.

Access to convenient river transportation by that time became less important, even though Muncie, Indiana is situated on the White River, a tributary to the Wabash which flows through Indianapolis. By the 1890s, rail transport was rapidly overtaking the importance of the steamboat.

Robert Hemingray died at his residence, 211 Garrard, in 1898. There is evidence that Robert's son Daniel also worked for the firm as a traveling salesman in the 1890s. His other sons (Ralph and Robert, Jr.) relocated to manage the Muncie plant.

Owens-Illinois Acquisition

By 1900, the Hemingray Company became a world leader of glass insulator manufacturing. Insulators were integral for operation of telegraph, telephone and electric lines in America and the world. Owens-Illinois Glass Company purchased the company assets in 1933, but Hemingray insulators remained a major product until 1967.

After initiating the manufacture of glass block and then TV picture tube glass, in June 1972, Owens-Illinois sent an open letter to all Muncie plant employees announcing the glass furnaces at the Indiana facility would cease operation. Glass block sales were already declining by the mid-1950s and the demand for color television glass was being met by the O-I Company at their Columbus and Pittsburgh plants. The company explained that the Muncie plant was showing its age and an entirely new plant would be required but at present, production demands did not justify a third plant. The company negotiated severance packages with the American Flint Glass Workers Union.

After the closing, the Muncie property was purchased by a real estate company, Sheller-Globe of Union City, Indiana. Some of the factory was still standing in the late 20th century and the office building has been converted into apartments.

A Marriot high-rise hotel and office stands on much of the Covington property and the Covington flood wall runs across the river side of the site. An archaeological research dig was conducted before the new construction commenced. A surprising amount of evidence of the Hemingray Company was discovered, including a nearly-intact underground brick-lined cistern. Numerous remnants of the glass company's products are now archived at the Behringer-Crawford Museum, Covington. Evidence of a previously undocumented pottery plant was discovered, as well as articles from an 1830 iron factory which manufactured nails, probably cut nails, since the drawn nail process was in the future. Items recovered included insulators, flasks and a rare find of a cast-iron bottle mold. Company privies revealed more items.

After the plant re-located to Muncie in 1919, several tenants occupied the Covington buildings. In 1922, a steel construction and engineering company, Fries & Son, used the factory to make prison cells and equipment. In the late 1960s, Escue Pontiac purchased the Hemingray property and moved there from 17th and Madison until the Marriot Hotel and office high-rise project began in the 1980s. Exactly 100 years after their facility located in Covington, the last of the Hemingray structures succumbed to a suspicious fire shortly after Escue relocated to a new location two blocks west.

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See page 8 for a brief Hemingray genealogy

The Western Baptist Theological Seminary

Karl Lietzenmayer

The steamboat and railroad made Cincinnati the fastest growing city in America in the 1830s and 40s. Covington did not benefit until the mid-1830s, when a steam ferry connected the two cities. In 1841, the city limits of Covington reached Willow Creek on the west and 12th Street to the south. A major contributor to the development of Covington after 1835 was the Western Baptist Theological Institute.¹

In October 1833, a general meeting was held in Cincinnati to unite the current Baptist leaders from west of the Alleghenies. These men considered themselves neither northern nor southern, but representatives of the Western Baptist brethren. One hundred and nine delegates gathered, most from Ohio, but also from Kentucky, Indiana, and Illinois, as well as seven representatives from the east. The delegates were Northern men, primarily from New England, who had come west as missionaries. Their Yankee roots gave them anti-slavery sentiments.²

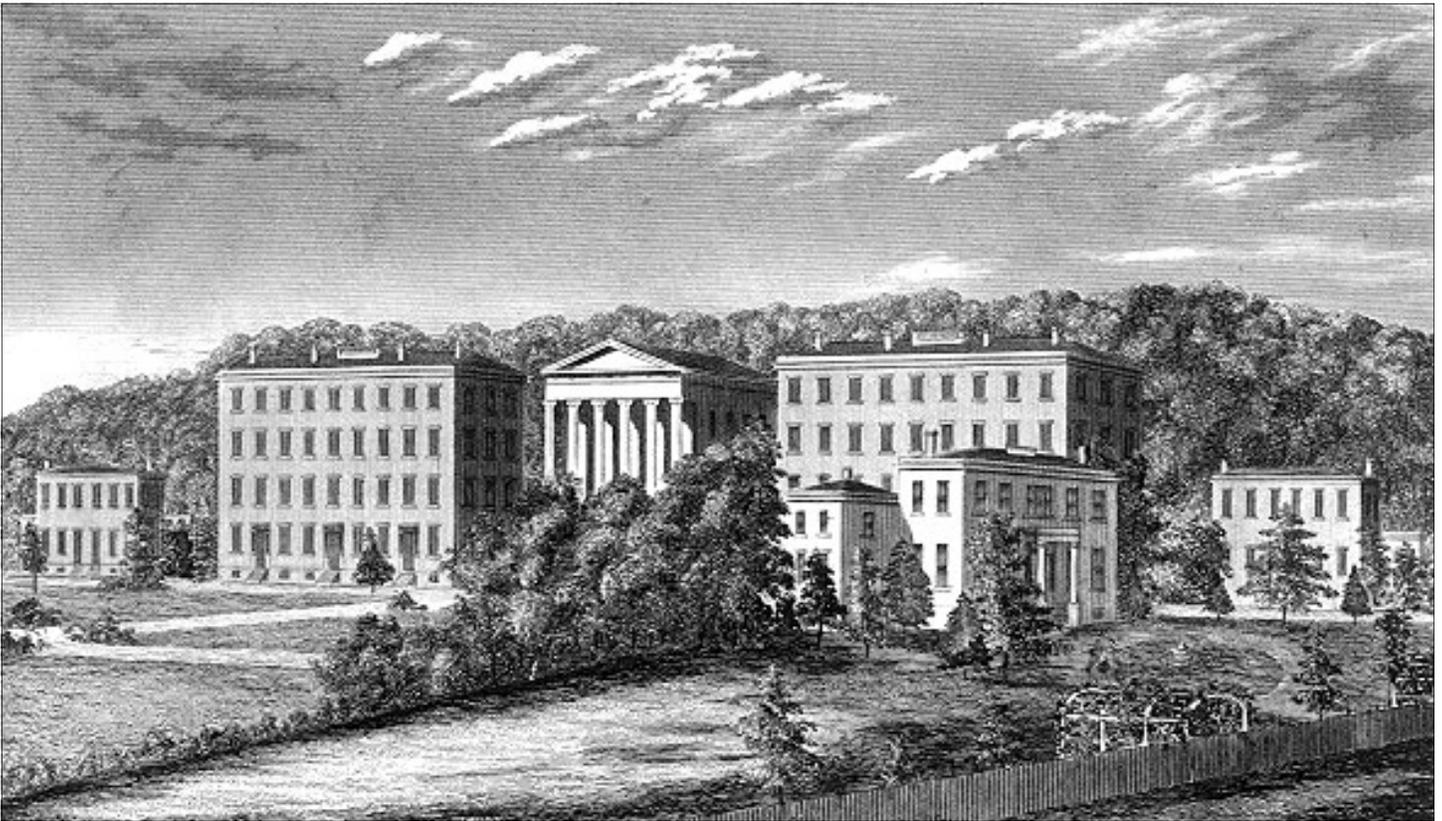
That year, Covington's educational status was enhanced when in May and June, the six-months-old Western Baptist Educational Society paid \$33,250 for three tracts of land — 370 acres south of town. There the Baptists proposed to establish a theological seminary.³ The Society quickly began selling off several large parcels at a profit and subdivided much of the remainder into nearly 700 building lots. Those lots extended from present-day 9th Street to 15th Street and from Banklick Street to east of Greenup Street. Twelve acres were retained as a site for the proposed seminary and, in 1840, a large and elaborate building to house the institute was built on West 11th Street, then known as High Street. Its cost of approximately \$20,000 was financed from the sale of lots.⁴ Two existing homes had also been acquired by the Society and one was now designated for the school's president, while the other served as a faculty residence.⁵ Ceremonies marking laying of the four-story theological building's cornerstone were held on August 3, 1840 and included the music of two brass bands.

Among the day's many speakers was Calvin E. Stowe, renowned associate of Ohio's Lane Theological Seminary. The building itself, erected in the center of the 12-acre oblong tract, had a large chapel and various classrooms on its first floor, while the upper floors contained 48 rooms for student housing.⁶

Despite the fact the Western Baptist Theological Institute received its charter in 1840, it did not open its doors to students until the fall of 1845. The delay was intended to allow time to raise additional funds.⁷ Ephraim Robbins, an Ohio insurance agent and native of Suffield, Connecticut, proved to be the chief architect of the successful effort to raise the needed funds for the school's actual opening. He first proposed creating a new subdivision on the institute's excess acreage and selling off land as building lots.⁸ Robbins saw to it that new streets were laid out and graded and other public improvements were made to the area. He personally arranged for the 12-acre campus to be beautified with a variety of large trees, shrubs and flowers transplanted from the surrounding forest. He then directed the landscaped grounds be enclosed with a decorative fence.⁹

Robbins' efforts quickly produced the much-needed funds, for between 1840 and 1843, 150 homes were built in the new subdivision.¹⁰ An indication of the housing demand then in existence may be gathered from the fact there were 85 buildings erected in Covington in 1841, yet the *Licking Valley Register* on New Year's Day 1832 noted there was not a single vacant house in town.¹¹

When the school's first students enrolled, they were greeted by a faculty consisting of three members: Dr. Robert Everett Pattison, school president and professor of Christian Theology, Rev. Ebenezer Dodge, professor of Hebrew and Ecclesiastical History, and Rev. Asa Drury, professor of Greek.¹² Reverend Dodge was succeeded a year later by Ezekiel Gilman Robinson.¹³



Covington's Western Baptist Theological Seminary
(courtesy: the Kenton County Public Library)

The faculty members, though small in number, were eminently qualified. Pattison, native of Vermont, was a graduate of Amhurst College and held a Doctorate of Divinity. Dodge held degrees from Brown and Newton Colleges, while Drury, a graduate of Yale, had formerly taught at the College of Cincinnati.¹⁴

The school's first Board of Trustees outnumbered the faculty by more than two-to-one and included: H. Wingate and C. Johnson of Kentucky; Ephraim Robbins, Samuel W. Lynd, John Stevens, and T. Lewis of Ohio; and J.L. Holman of Indiana. From these names, it is easy to understand the origin of many Covington streets such as Robbins, Lynn, Holman, and Stevens (Stevens has since been become part of Garrard Street south of 11th Street).¹⁵

Over the next several years, Western Baptist Theological Institute educated what quickly proved to be some of America's most distinguished educational and spiritual leaders. One of its outstanding graduates was Rufus C. Burleson, who went on to serve

some 50 years as president of Texas' Baylor University. Today, Burleson's memory is kept alive among Baylor's students by a bronze statue standing in a prominent part of their campus.¹⁶

The local institute had been built by northern capital and staffed by northern educators whose intention was to educate western men. Members of its Board of Trustees were to be from each of the western states. Despite this effort to ensure fair representation from various areas the school served, there were many pro-slavery extremists in Kentucky's interior and deep South who, by summer of 1847, were openly accusing the school and the Baptist Church in Covington of abolitionism.¹⁷

On one occasion, one of the trustees who believed in rightness of slavery, proposed a resolution that slavery be declared divinely inspired. The proposal was defeated, but those who espoused it were not to be denied and turned to the state legislature for help. There, they succeeded in inducing sympathetic law makers to alter the seminary's char-

ter so that 16 specifically named individuals were added to the institute's board. It was also made a requirement that from that time forward, only Kentuckians would be eligible for such appointments.¹⁸

Those charges in January 1848 set off a series of bitter quarrels among members of the newly-packed board. The Kentuckians accepted President Pattison's resignation and replaced him with Samuel W. Lynd, who has since migrated westward to St. Louis. The school's financial agent was dismissed as was one of the professors and it was announced in no uncertain terms that neither the school nor any of its employees would do anything which might interfere with the institution of slavery.¹⁹

The new trustees declared the North would never be allowed an equal voice in administrating school affairs until the pro-slavery element could regard the school as being "safe."²⁰ The northern trustees, of course, objected to the seminary's altered charter and resisted it on constitutional grounds. After lengthy litigation, the case was carried to the Kentucky Court of Appeals where, in February 1853, the charter's new amendment was declared unconstitutional.²¹

The Court of Appeals' decision put the newly-appointed trustees out of office, but by then, the controversy had resulted in serious division of the seminary's friends and supporters into a northern and southern faction.²² This was a time of political polarization in which Covingtonians were adopting a newer and firmer crystallization of attitudes toward the issue of states' rights and the need for preserving the American Union. It was a time which would rapidly merge into a period of stirring events and remarkable political protagonists. The ever-sensitive pro-slavery minority was becoming more aggressive in the face of an ever-broadening and widening anti-slavery movement. A compromise was eventually reached by the Institute's warring factions when they agreed to call upon John McClean, Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, to act as arbiter.²³ On September 20, 1853, McClean proposed the school's assets be divided equally between the northern and southern factions and the following January, the Kentucky Legislature ratified his proposal.²⁴

Accordingly, the institute's property was divided into two equal shares, one of which went to Georgetown College in central Kentucky and the other to support the Fairmont Theological Seminary in Ohio.²⁵ Western Baptist Theological Seminary's library extensive library had previously been given to what is now Denison University at Granville, Ohio.²⁶ The Covington seminary had become one of Kentucky's first major sacrifices on the slaveholders' altar of human bondage.

1. Weldon, Alexandra, *Historical Connections and Ideological Divisions*, *Bulletin of the Kenton County Historical Society*, October 2001, page 2
2. *Ibid*
3. James, W.W., *A History of the Western Baptist Theological Institute*, Baptist World Publishing Company, Louisville, 1910
4. *Ibid*
5. *Ibid*
6. *Ibid*
7. *Ibid*
8. *Ibid*
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12. James, *op. cit.*
13. Crimson, Leo Taylor, editor, *Baptists in Kentucky — 1776-1976*, Kentucky Baptist Convention, Middletown, Kentucky, 1975
14. James, *op. cit.*
15. *Ibid*
16. *Ibid*
17. *Ibid*
18. *Cincinnati Daily Commercial*, June 9, 1854
19. James, *op. cit.*
20. *Ibid*
21. *Ibid*, also: *Cincinnati Daily Commercial*, June 9, 1854
22. *Cincinnati Daily Commercial*, June 9, 1854
23. James, *op. cit.*
24. *Ibid*
25. *Cincinnati Daily Commercial*, June 9, 1854
26. James, *op. cit.*

Hemingray - Continued

Brief Hemingray Genealogy

- William Hemingray (1790-1832) m. Ann Johnson (1811-1834)
 [1st marriage: Mariah Barlow]
1. Catherine (1815-1888) m. Charles Horner (1812-1853)
 2. **Samuel** (1817-1866) m. Ann ? (1817-1879)
 3. **Robert** (1820-1898) m. Mary Ann Carroll (1821-1901)
 4. Reuben (1823-?) m. Caroline ? (1824- ?)
 5. Joseph C. (1825-1891) m. Maria G. Hawn (1839-1927)
 6. Mary Jane (1829-1902) m. **Richard G. Evans** (1828-1897)
- 2) **Samuel** (1817-1866) m. Ann ? (1817-1879)
 1. Samuel J.
 2. Henrietta
 3. Camilla L.
 - 3) **Robert** (1820-1898) m. Mary Ann Carroll (1821-1901)
 1. Camillam William Felix
 2. Ann Johnson m. **Bradford Shinkle I**
 3. Mary Ann Carroll m. **Bradford Shinkle I**
 [married Hemingray sisters]
 4. Catherine m Edward Swasey
 - 5 **Ralph G.** m. 1) Jane Matthews 2)Eva Hollinger
 6. Robert C. m. Nannie Timberlake
 7. Daniel C. m. Clara Keck

Lee Roy Reams

Adapted from Alice Kennelly Roberts' article in the Encyclopedia of Northern Kentucky

Lee Roy Reams, an internationally acclaimed Broadway star, has danced and sung his way from a humble beginning in Covington, Kentucky, to the brightest footlights of the entertainment world.

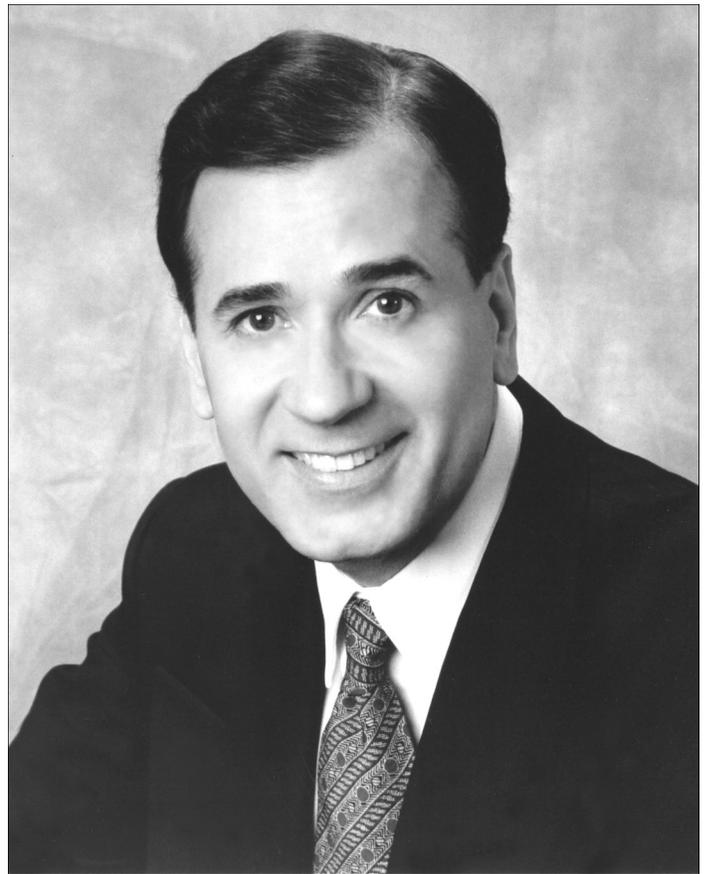
Reams was born on August 23, 1942, and is the youngest of seven children of Robert and Flora Moore Reams. Recognizing early his interest and talent in the performing arts, his mother made sure that there was always money for his dance and music lessons.

Lee Roy Reams graduated from Covington Holmes High School in 1960 and received a BA from the University of Cincinnati in 1964. During his student days, he appeared in productions on the *Showboat Majestic*, at the Playhouse in the Park, Cincinnati, and at Memorial Hall in Dayton, Ohio.

In 1982, he received MA from the University of Cincinnati and was presented an honorary doctorate in performing arts from the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music in 1998. He has toured the country coast-to-coast and appeared as an entertainer on numerous cruise ships around the world.

Reams' Broadway debut came in 1966 with *Sweet Charity*. His starring role for many years in Broadway's *42nd Street* won him Tony and Drama Desk nominations. He has appeared on Broadway with Carol Channing in *Hello Dolly* and with Lauren Bacall in *Applause*. His dancing partners have included Ann Miller, Juliet Prowse, Cyd Charisse, Mitzi Gaynor, Anne Bancroft, Jane Powell, Ethel Merman, Goldie Hahn, Chita Rivera, and Suzanne Farrell.

Reams has performed before U.S. presidents Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, Bill Clinton, and George H.W. Bush, and also before first lady, Lady Bird Johnson. He has performed as a guest star with both the Cincinnati and New York Pops orchestras, and has also appeared at New York's Carnegie Hall,



Lee Roy Reams — headshot
(courtesy: *Playbill*)

London's Palladium, Istanbul's Hilton, Brazil's Manaus Opera House, Cairo's Opera House, the Rockefeller Center's Rainbow and Stars, and the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C.

In 1989, he played the part of Frank Schultz in the Paper Mill Playhouse production of *Showboat* which was televised on *Great Performances* on PBS. He made his debut as a director in 1998 while co-starring in *An Evening with Jerry Herman*.

His astonishing Broadway credits include:
1966: *Sweet Charity* (Young Spanish Man)
1969: *Oklahoma!* (Will Parker)
1970: *Applause* (Duane Fox)
1974: *Lorelei* (Henry Spofford)

Continued on page 10

A Look Back at The Headlines

An on-going feature reliving local headlines

This issue features:

The Covington Journal – September 18, 1869.

“The floor of the Covington and Cincinnati bridge is being re-laid. The work has to be done at night, on account of the heavy amount of travel during the day”

“The congregation of St. Mary’s Church on Eighth Street have abandoned, for the present, the project of building a new house of worship, and will immediately commence the work of repairing and renovating the building now used by them.”

“There is a loud call on every citizen who has the true interest of Covington at heart to vote ‘Aye’ on the upcoming Water Works proposition.”

“Daniel Piatt and wife, and some twenty others, heirs of Robert Kennedy, deceased, who was the owner of the Covington Ferry, have instituted a suit in the Kenton Circuit Court against the Covington and Cincinnati Bridge Company for \$500,000 in damages. They claim that the erection of the bridge was an encroachment upon, and an appropriation of, their lands, ferry franchise, and etc. The suit is fixed for trial at the December term of the court.”

“Our readers would do well to call on E. J. Hickey, at 616 Madison Street, before purchasing their boots and shoes for the fall season. He has a large and well selected stock of goods of every description, of custom and eastern work, which he tells us he will sell at prices to suit these hard times.”

“A party of Cincinnati roughs came over to this side of the river, near White Hall, Sunday for the purpose of a fight, but the affair was broken up by outsiders.”

Reams — continued

1978: *Hello, Dolly!* (Cornelius Hackl)

1980: *42nd Street* (Billy Lawlor)

1983: *La Cage aux Folles* (Albin/Zaza)

1994: *Beauty and the Beast* (Lumiere)

1995: *Hello, Dolly!* (Choreographer)

1998: *An Evening with Jerry Herman*
(Co-star & Director)

2006: *The Producers* (Roger DeBris)

One of his most endearing attributes is that he never forgot his family and his roots. When his beloved sister-in-law died in 2004, he interrupted an appearance at the Kennedy Center to come home to Covington for her funeral. He owns property in New York and Connecticut

Want to be Published?

The Kenton County Historical Society is always looking for experienced or novice authors for article submissions to their two publications, the *Bulletin*, and *Northern Kentucky Heritage* magazine.

Bulletin articles should be limited to Kenton County topics, 2-6 pages of typed text, and have at least two references.

Magazine submissions should be at least 10 pages in length with footnotes, and should cover a topic within the 10-county region.

Photos or other graphics are always encouraged.

Submit *Bulletin* articles to:
Kenton County Historical Society

P.O. Box 641

Covington, KY 41011

or

nkyhist@zoomtown.com

Then and Now



Actually two “Then” images: Left – the original Covington Courthouse (1845). Right, its replacement (1907).

Both photos courtesy the Kenton County Public Library.

Mystery Photo

Can you identify the mystery photo below? The answer can be found at the bottom of the page.



ANSWER:

A portion of the Daniel Carter Beard statue, Covington, Kentucky

photo courtesy Bob Webster

Kenton County Historical Society

November/December - 2012

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I Bet You Didn't Know

*Tidbits from Kentucky's heritage
for every day of the calendar year*

November 1, 1780: Kentucky County was made into a district and was split into: Lincoln, Jefferson, and Fayette counties.

November 1, 1793: The state legislature met for the first time in Frankfort, which had been designated as the permanent capital.

November 10, 1782: George Rogers Clark led a large force of Kentuckians through Northern Kentucky and into the Ohio Country to attack Indian villages there in retaliation on earlier attacks against Kentucky settlements.

December 4, 1868: One of the worst steamboat accidents in history occurred on the Ohio River near Warsaw, when the *United States* and *America* collided. Depending on the source, somewhere between 75 and 162 people were killed.

"On This Day In Kentucky" — Robert Powell

Programs and Notices

Annual KCHS Christmas Party

Members and friends mark your calendar - the 35th annual KCHS Christmas Party, Tuesday, December 11, 2012, 6:30, at the Behringer Crawford Museum, with food, drink, music and train display. Call John Boh (859 491-0490) or email jhboh@zoomtown.com for details.

Behringer-Crawford Museum Events

The Civil War exhibit "Divided We Stood" (on display through the holiday season into January 2013) presents the unfolding of the War nationally, in Kentucky, and in Northern Kentucky. Fresh research locally has rediscovered lesser know and found new stories about families and events.

The annual Holiday Toy Trains & Dickens Village exhibits will start on November 17 and with other holiday activities will continue into January 2013.

Civil War Lectures at BC Museum

Nov. 17, 2012, 2:00 p.m.: *The Longest Raid of the Civil War*, presentation and book signing by Lester V. Horwitz;

Jan. 20, 2013, 2:00 p.m., "First Reading of the Emancipation Proclamation," presentation by Gary Kersey;

Feb. 10, 2013, 2:00 p.m., "The Battle of Richmond," presentation by Robert Moody;

Feb. 10, 2013, 3:15 p.m., "The Battle of Augusta," presentation by Donald Clark; and

Feb. 17, 2013, 2:00 p.m., "*Kentucky Rising: Democracy, Slavery, and Culture from the Early Republic to the Civil War*" Presentation and book signing by Dr. Ramage and Dr. Watkins

A "Dickens of a Christmas Carolfest

The Ludlow Historic Society's "A Dickens of a Christmas Carolfest" will be held on December 1st, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. It will certainly be a festive launch to the holiday season and the Kentucky Symphony Orchestra will benefit from event proceeds. The KSO serves a valuable purpose in providing community-wide music performances and educational opportunities in our schools. This year's event will feature four historic Ludlow churches and, in the spirit of continuing the enthusiasm of the World Choir Games, the event will include a "carolfest" – the performance of Christmas music by various groups at each church. For full information, please contact Jami Powers at 496-1674.

Announcement

Northern Kentucky Heritage Magazine has received a KHS Publications Award. The Publication Award is one of the 2012 Kentucky History Awards. The Kentucky Historical Society will present the award at its 2012 History Celebration on Friday, November 9th at the Old State Capitol in Frankfort. Congratulations to the entire staff for still another award for this fine publication.