

DAVID MARTIN

Born: c. 1806, Maine.

Married: Mary Melvin.

Died: 20 May 1893, Lawrence Co., Ohio.

Buried:

Children: John, Asenith, Lena, Theodore, David, Charles, Sarah, William, Samuel, James (Jeremy), Nathan, Mary, Elizabeth.

Biography: David Martin Sr. was an early settler in Lawrence Co., Ohio, probably coming to Ohio as a youth with his parents. He first appears in Gallia Co., Ohio where he bought 83½ acres of land on 1 September 1824. He married in Gallia Co. to Mary Melvin on 27 January 1827 by Rev. William Fuson, a Baptist minister. Mary was born c. 1806 in Ohio. Her parents were Jonathan and Nancy Anna (Broom) Melvin. The 1870 census states that David's parents were born "of foreign birth", but then according to the 1880 census, they were both claimed to have been born in Massachusetts. Except for the 1850 census (saying Massachusetts), every reference to David's birthplace says that he was born in Maine, but before 1820 Maine was part of Massachusetts. David was a farmer and by the time of the 1830 census he and his family lived in Perry Twp. of Lawrence County. He bought 87 acres of land there in Lawrence Co. on 5 March 1834. Then again there he purchased 43½ acres on 10 April 1849. In 1850, his farm had three horses, two cows, ten sheep and eleven pigs. He grew corn, oats, and potatoes and had produced 200 pounds of butter that year. A land deed between David and Jonas Jenkins appears in 1858. 1860 agricultural statistics shows David's farm holdings and production to be a bit less than ten years earlier – no sheep, but a few more pigs. David and Mary were both illiterate, although in 1880, he is said to be able to read, though not write. All children living at home in 1860 were listed as attending school. Also in 1860, David's real estate is valued at \$3000 and his personal estate at \$600. On 25 March 1867, David and Mary sold land to the trustees of the Centenary Methodist Episcopal church in Perry Twp. For five dollars with the provision that it be used only for a place of worship. His name appears in the local newspaper, issue of 27 December 1877, as a delinquent tax payer! As noted, both David and Mary lived to 1880. Mary died in Lawrence Co., Ohio on 7 June 1889 at 84 years and 3 months, of "old age", and she is noted to have still been married at the time of her death. She is buried in the Community Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery in Lawrence Co., Ohio. David survived her until 20 May 1893 when he died on his farm, one he had worked for over forty years. His funeral was held at the Centenary Methodist Episcopal church.



Grave of Mary (Melvin) Martin

Children:

1) John M., born 4 August 1828 in Ohio. He is called a "laborer" in 1850. In 1880, he appears in Elizabeth Twp., Lawrence Co., Ohio and was working as an "ore miner". His wife was named the former Narcissus M. Ratliff (born c. 1834 in Ohio). They married on 25 April 1850. They had 11 children, five of whom all died in 1861 in a "black diphtheria" epidemic! John was fighting with the Union Army during the Civil War when he learned by letter of the epidemic. He was refused emergency leave, but he left anyway to return home and help his wife. He was later unable to get a war pension because of the incident. John's work as a miner kept him moving around a bit. In 1882 alone he moved to Jackson Co., Ohio, then back to Lawrence County and then yet again back to Jackson County. He worked in the iron furnaces for \$1.25 a day. John was still referred to as a "miner" when he died on 1 August 1914 in Jackson



John Martin

Co., Ohio of "old age". His wife who survived him is named as "Mrs. Mary Martin", possibly indicating possibly a second wife or else it was the middle name of Narcissus.

- a. Mary, born c. 1852.
- b. Martha, born c. 1853.
- c. Sarah, born c. 1855.
- d. David, born c. 1857.
- e. Janetta Jane, born 30 May 1861. She married first to John Slater and then to Thomas Abraham Jenkins.
- f. John, born c. 1864. He worked as a miner.
- g. Ella, born c. 1867.
- h. William Henry, born 29 April 1868 and died 14 September 1944.
- i. Narcissus, born 29 June 1872. In a Vinton Co., Ohio history book, she is, however, named as "Nora". She married William Smith and they had four children, but the marriage did not last. In 1916, she married Omer Bledsoe. Omer was injured in a coal mining accident and afterwards turned to farming.
- j. Nora, born c. 1873.
- k. name unknown.

2) Asenith, our ancestor. See entry on Jonas Jenkins.

3) Lena, born c. 1831.

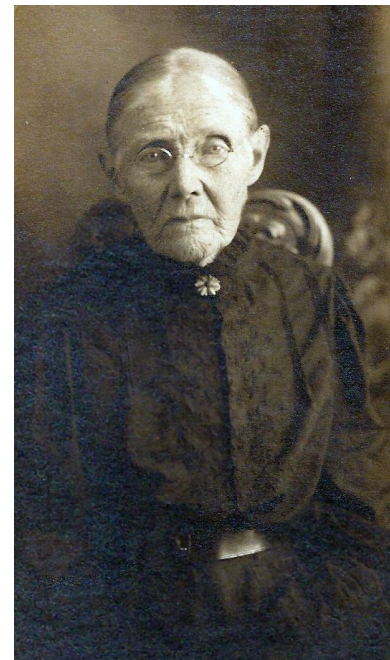
4) Theodore Fredrick, born c. 1833. There is a marriage record of a Theodore Martin who married Jane McKnight on 14 November 1852 in Lawrence Co., Ohio. Her first name appears to have been Sara.

- a. Mary, born 30 March 1853. She married Albert M. Gray and died on 16 March 1939 in Lawrence Co., Ohio.

5) David, was born in December 1836, quite possibly a twin of Charles. His wife

was the former Nancy D. Allen and she was born c. 1841. They married on 13 April 1858. David entered the Civil War twice, first on 10 June 1861. He was shot in the left arm and discharged "by surgeon's certificate" in October 1862. He enlisted again on 13 February 1865 and served until the end of the war. David was a farmer, living in Lawrence Twp., Lawrence Co., Ohio in 1880. He is undoubtedly the David Martin of Lawrence Twp. referred to in a newspaper article dated 17 March 1892 which speaks of his farm of about 90 acres. It states that he had rented his corn land to his son-in-law and was not farming much himself as he was "broken down in health" and "no longer able to work". David and Nancy were both still living in 1900, in Mason Twp., Lawrence Co., Ohio. Nancy is then listed as having had ten children, seven of them still living. David was cared for at a home for disabled veterans for a while, but left the facility in 1904. He had gray eyes and stood 5' 8" tall. He was unable to read or write. In 1910, he and his wife both appear in Greenup, Kentucky with their son Van Jefferson and two granddaughters. He was still working as a farmer. A death date of 7 February 1914 is given for David, supposedly in Wayne Co., West Virginia.

- a. Winchester Reynolds, born 3 October 1860. He became a farmer. He died 6 February 1938 in Wayne Co., West Virginia. His wife was named Mary Ann.
 - b. Roberta, born 22 February 1863. She married to Orville J. Hall. She died on 23 April 1927.
 - c. Esadra, born c. 1866. This may be the three-year-old "Dora" listed in the 1870 census.
 - d. Benjamin W., born c. 1868. He also was a farmer.
 - e. Lewis, born 19 June 1870. His wife was named Eva. He died on 16 November 1948.
 - f. Ulysses E., born c. 1870, but after the census that year.
 - g. Van Jefferson, born c. 1876. He lived with his parents in 1910.
 - h. Rutherford Clark, born 4 October 1877 and known as Rufus. He died 16 March 1944 in McDowell Co, West Virginia.
 - i. Katy, was born on 9 November 1880 and apparently died before 1900.
 - j. Wilbur M., born 5 January 1897 and died 15 January 1926. He is buried in Woodland Cemetery, Ironton, Ohio.
- 6) Charles, born c. 1836.
- 7) Sarah, was born on 15 October 1840. She married Mitchell McClaskey, a "laborer", who according to the 1880 census record was about two years younger than her, but in the 1900 census he was listed as five years older, being born in September 1835! Their tombstone



Sarah (Martin) McClaskey

has him about four years older. They appear in Perry Twp. in the 1870, 1880 and 1900 censuses. No children are ever listed for them. Mitchell was still alive in 1910, but Sarah was a widow by the time of the 1920 census, when she was living with David and Sadie Martin. Sarah died on 11 January 1922, in Perry Twp., of chronic bronchitis. She was buried in Woodland Cemetery two days after her death, beside her husband Mitchell who had died in 1913.



8) William, born c. 1842. His wife was the former Eliza Jane McClaskey and she was about two years older than he was. They married in Lawrence Co. on 24 March 1864. She was marked illiterate in 1880. William was a farmer like his father. They also lived in Perry Twp., Lawrence Co., Ohio and had at least seven children.

- a. Michael, born 4 October 1867. He helped his father farm. He died 13 March 1950 in Vinton Co., Ohio, named as "Mitchel".
- b. Sarah, born 8 August 1869, ten months old at the time of the 1870 census. She grew up to married Joshua W. Crabtree and they had nine children.
- c. Nathaniel, born 19 December 1870. He married Julia F. Richards on 2 December 1899 in Fayette Co., West Virginia. He died 3 January 1931, his wife at that time named as Matilda.
- d. Mary E., born in April 1873.
- e. Margaret Jane, born 6 October 1873. She married Louis G. Hilpenberg and died on 26 July 1939.
- f. William Thomas, born 7 July 1876. He married to Mary Ellen Biggs (1880-1951) on 10 June 1900. William died on 1 January 1942.
- g. Henry Alton, born 12 January 1879. He married to a woman named Maud. He died 3 January 1955.
- h. Augusta, born 4 September 1880. He married Oren C. Keeney on 23 October 1901.
- i. Ambrose, born on 1 September 1883. Another record give it as 19 December 1883. His wife was Lizzie Lamke, who he married on 25 April 1907. Ambrose died in Adams Co., Pennsylvania, December 1966.

9) Samuel, born 28 June 1844. He became a farmer and his wife was the former Sarah Haney. She was born 16 September 1846 and died 9 November 1912. Six children are listed at home in 1880, all six of them boys! The streak of boys apparently continued up to ten in number until they finally had a girl in about



1891! Sarah was still alive in 1910, the family living at that time in Perry Twp. Samuel is listed as a widower in 1920, living with his son David. He then died on 30 October 1928 in Fayette Twp., Lawrence Co. The cause of death was noted to be, "Infection from wound on hand caused by barred wire." Senility was listed as a contributory cause on his death certificate. He was buried in Woodland Cemetery. His grave is a Civil War soldier marker stating that he served in Co. E of the 1st West Virginia Infantry.

- a. John, born c. 1867.
- b. Joseph, born c. 1870.
- c. Willis, born c. 1873.
- d. David, born 13 May 1874. He married to a Sadie A. McKnight, and lived in Perry Twp., Lawrence Co., Ohio. His mother-in-law is twice listed as Mary McKnight, his father's sister!
- e. Milan, born c. 1877.
- f. Ezekiel, born c. 1879.
- g. Edgar, born c. 1881. He still lived at home in 1910.
- h. Newton, born c. 1884.
- i. Dustin C., born c. 1885.
- j. George H., born c. 1888.
- k. Rosie, born c. 1891. She still lived at home in 1910.

10) James, his name also appearing as Jeremy, was born 20 May 1845. His wife was Eliza Bryant, daughter of Daniel and Rachel (Roberts) Bryant and she was born 27 July 1847. James served in the 189th regiment of the Ohio Volunteer Infantry during the Civil War. In 1870, they lived beside David and Mary Martin and others of the family. There was also a Rachel (27 years old) and grandson John Pritchard (age 14), living with them in 1910. James was a farmer. Eliza died on 20 January 1920 and James died on 16 May 1923, both in Lawrence Co., Ohio. They are buried in the Centenary Cemetery there. The funeral expenses for James was \$100.

- a. James, born c. 1867.
- b. Mary, born c. 1869.
- c. Daniel, born 1874 and died in 1929.
- d. James, born 1886 and died in 1963.



11) Nathaniel, born 18 April 1847 (April 1844 by the 1900 census or c. 1849 by another census). In 1870, he was working on the farm and listed as being illiterate. He married Angeline Daniels on 30 November 1871 in Ironton. The marriage record claims that he was 21 at the time. Angeline, or "Annie", was just 16. They moved to Carter Co., Kentucky, appearing there in 1880, and that is where he died on 25 July 1921 with dysentery. In 1930, Angeline lived there still, appearing by herself, and still farming at 75 years of age!

- a. Elizabeth, born c. 1872 and died 20 June 1956.
- b. Oliver Grant, born 26 September 1887 in Carter Co., Kentucky and died 15 January 1952 in Portsmouth, Scioto Co., Ohio. He

was a steel worker.

- c. Sarah Ellen, born c. 1877.
- d. Mary Ann, born c. 1879.
- e. James H., born August 1883.
- f. Armita, born June 1888.
- g. William H., born December 1890.
- h. Ethel, born February 1892.
- i. Effie Lena, born 15 February 1893 one source claims, although the 1900 census says February 1892, indicating that she and Ethel were twins. Effie died 29 June 1921. Effie married to a Mr. Cameron.
- j. unknown. The 1900 census says that Angeline was the mother of ten children, two of whom had by then died.

12) Mary, was born on 28 March 1851. On 7 May 1867, she married to David McKnight, who was born c. 1848 in Ohio. By 1900, Mary was a widow in Perry Twp., Lawrence Co., Ohio and is listed as having had ten children, nine living. David had died on 14 November 1888. He was a Civil War veteran. In 1910, she was still living in Perry Twp., beside her son-in-law David Martin, and then in 1920 she appears in his household. She died on 14 April 1926 in Perry Twp., Lawrence Co., Ohio with "paralysis" and a "cerebral hemorrhage."



Grave of David McKnight

- a. Elizabeth, born 16 February 1869 and married Elmer Bryant. She died on 25 November 1945 in Perry Twp., Lawrence Co., Ohio.
- b. Sarah, or Sadie, born on 30 October 1870. She married to David Martin, son of Samuel Martin. She died 28 June 1931.
- c. John, born c. 1874.
- d. Theodore, born c. 1875.
- e. Hattie, born in August 1879. She died 14 August 1927 in Ironton, Ohio. She married Charles Layne.
- f. Martin, born in August 1880.
- g. Charles, born in August 1882.
- h. Ida, born in January 1884.
- i. Emerson, born 26 August 1886 and died 17 September 1910.
- j. unknown.

13) Elizabeth M., born c. 1853. She still lived at home in 1870, listed at that time as illiterate. She married to William McClaskey c. 1873 and they continued living there in Perry Twp., Lawrence Co., Ohio. He was born in July 1849, the son of John and Mary Jane McClaskey. William's occupation in 1880 is given as "farm laborer". They both still lived in 1910, there in Perry Twp. In that year, an eight-year-old grandson, Charles Pruitt, is living with them. William died on 10 February 1924 in Upper Twp., Lawrence Co., Ohio. Elizabeth survived him, dying on 25 January 1927 in Greenup, Kentucky with

tuberculosis, from which she suffered for about two years.

- a. Charles, born c. 1874.
- b. William, born 14 July 1875.
- c. Eliza J., born c. 1876. A son-in-law of Eliza's mother Elizabeth is named as "C. P. Pruitt" and as Eliza is the only known daughter this is probably her husband.
- d. George Washington, born c. 1879, according to the 1880 census. However, his death certificate indicates that he was born on 1 March 1875 and that he died on 6 April 1947.
- e. Augusta, born 4 September 1880.
- f. Ambrose, born 19 December 1883.
- g. William, born c. 1885.