

James R. Martin

James R. Martin was born in Mercer County Ky, March 2, 1840. *Garnett Martin*
The story is told in Herodsborg Ky. that he and his brother left there because they would play the fiddle and that was the devils instrument. The brother stayed in Illinois but after James R. Martin married Elizabeth Hunt and Ira H. Martin was born at Tuscola Ill. They came to Indiana and lived with his uncle Dick Martin on a farm two miles north of Clayton which farm was later known as the Vandogrip farm.

He joined the Union army in 1860 under Capt. Hitchel in Company C. 70 Ind. Vol. infantry and said company was under Gen. Ben Harrison who later became president of the United States. J. R. Martin fought in the battle at Nashville, Murfreesboro, Tullahoma and Peach Orchard and was with Gen. Sherman on his famous march to the sea. He was honorably discharged at the close of the war in 1864. He joined the G. A. R. or Grand Army of the Republic in about 1890 at Clayton and was member of same until the lodge was disbanded on account of so many deaths in their ranks. James R. Martin gave his son Ira H. Martin then 18 years old \$2.50 to join the S. of V. at Clayton. He was Capt. of that camp 1903. of V when they too disbanded because of deaths

James R. Martin lived on the farm, that has been pictured and written about for it was known as the home of Mrs. Robert Louis Stevenson. James R. Martin had wife Elizabeth had three boys and three girls. Ira H. Martin married Katie Justice of Azo and her history is recorded under the West History. Ira Martin was a teacher in Hendricks County before he married, and some afterward. He taught at the Scott School South of Clayton and one in the Kurtz community north of New Winchester. Olson Hunt was the trustee. He was a good disciplinarian. He could be remembered for having a double thumb.

He was a farmer that was owned later by Cecik Martin that burned down a few years ago. He and his family moved to Danville in 1906. He was in business with Ray McDaniel in the feed, coal and ice business located on the ground later taken over by where the Christian church stands. The store was moved across the street where the telephone office is.

Ira Martin built a number of bridges in the county. one where the water works once was but now across the road where the park is. He attended Central Normal College before marriage. He was a member of the Danville Commercial club and the Christian Church in Danville. He and his family moved to Tennessee in 1914. He was brought back to his daughters home in 1953 where he died and is buried in Clayton cemetery with the

James R. Martin was born in Mercer County Ky. March 2, 1840. When nearly grown he moved to Indiana and lived with his uncle Dick Martin on a farm two miles north of Clayton which farm was later known as the Vandagriff farm in the bend of the road in Liberty township in Hendricks County.

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On the day that I was 18 years old my father gave me \$2.50 with which to join the S. of V. at Clayton. I was Capt. of that camp 190 S. of V. when they too disbanded, for reasons mentioned above in about 1900.

Ira. H. Martin.

James R. Martin family.

Media Born ¹⁸⁷⁴ was the oldest daughter and it fell upon her to take the place of mother after her mother Elizabeth Hunt Martin died in 1900. Media never married. She took great part in Christian church work and she and her father moved to Danville for a few years before the father died in 1916. Media taught classes at the Danville Christian Church. She died in 1916.

There were two sisters of Media who died not far apart from their mothers death. They were ¹⁸⁷²⁻¹⁸⁸⁴ Neva and ¹⁸⁷⁷⁻¹⁸⁹⁴ Verbie.

The two younger brothers were Charles and Ithamer. Charles Martin married Dovie Hadley in 1909. They lived in Danville and in a home west of Danville not far from Ray Hunts. This house burned down while they lived there and the family moved to a farm not far from Whites town. There were two children in the family. Leon Martin and Lavonne Martin. Charley Martin was killed by an ELECTRIC WIRE THAT HAD FALLEN DURING AN ELECTRICAL STORM. Dovie later married and Edwin Newby.

Lavonne married Keith Schoch and lives in Jacksonville, Ala. Leon married ^{LOAN} BETTY SEAN in DANVILLE. They are residents of Danville. Leon and wife have been active in the Christian Church and have operated the Dairy Queen business in Danville for several years. They have two children ^{KATHLEEN} Kathy now Mrs. LARRY WHITE ^{WHO} teaches in the Public schools of Danville. Kent is in school at Purdue.

Ithamer Martin married Maud Stevenson in . They had two children Dorothy McAvoy and Kenneth Martin. Both Kenneth and his Dad were interested in machinery and they worked in the garage business for several years in Indianapolis. Later had a shop near Carmel Ind. Ithamer and wife and children lived at the James R. Martin old home place on the Clayton road when his wife died. Ithamer was a World War veteran and died at the Veterans home in Marian Ind. He is buried in Clayton cemetery.

Mrs. Dovie Martin Howdy,
Danville, Indiana.

C O P Y for Lorena.

Dear Cousin:

I'm going to commit a real social error, but I know you and Lorena, Ed Martin's daughter, will overlook it.

I was SO glad to get your letters, and am glad to write about our family too, but I'm taking the easy way out, by sending Lorena a carbon of this part of the family history, so I shall not have to write it all out twice, see?

I used to work in an office, and my sister has a typewriter, and I never could write all this out by longhand, which I should do, so am using the machine.

I live with my sister Cora, two years younger than I: I'm the oldest of John Martin's children: John Martin my father was Dick Martin's brother: Both my father and mother are dead: My mother died suddenly of a heart attack February 1938. I had taken her down town to lunch and dinner, and to two movies and shopping on Saturday: we usually did that every Saturday, so it was not an unusual proceeding, then we came home: On Sunday, Cora and I drove over to Pasadena to see our cousin Lena, and mother had the grandchildren, Frances and John, Edward's two children, whom she had raised and their children, each had only one then; to dinner here at Edward's home, or rather mother's home, for this house was built for mother by my sister Estella, Dr. Swindt's wife, both of whom are dead now.

After dinner, the girls Frances and John's wife, who are great friends, washed the dishes and the children played about and mother had a headache so went to bed early, and later had the fatal heart attack.

Edward is married and lives in the East: Walter, my other brother lives here with his wife Ellen, his son Jack and Jack's wife: Jack and his wife both work at the telephone company; have fine jobs at a good salary: Jack was in the war, and overseas, but got home without a scratch we are proud to say. Ellen keeps house for the four of them. Jack and Louise will get a house of their own as soon as they can, but that seems just impossible now.

Ruth Rogers, is Edward's youngest girl: Edward's wife died soon after she was born, and her grandmother was here at the time, and was going back to Indiana, her old home, to live with her daughter Fannie, she then thought Fannie had always wanted a girl, so when Ed's wife died, Grandmother Burkholder took little Ruth back to Fannie; and my mother took Frances and John raised them and kept house for them and Edward and Cora: Cora was in Denver with me, where I lived then and Cora worked for the Internal Revenue Dept. in Denver; then came out here: first went up to Pittsburg worked in the Navy Yard at Bremerton, then got a job in the Veterans's Bureau out at Searsville, California: She was Examiner of Accounts, and as she had worked for the Government over 25 years, she retired in March 1944, and now she and I live here in the house my sister built for my mother alone: Frances' husband, Dick Prichard bought the house next door to this, last year, as he could not find a place to live, and he works for the Douglas Aircraft Plant, as an executive in the office: John, Frances' brother is married to Catherine, has two children a boy 11 and a girl 4: Frances has two girls, one 9 and one 4: John lives in Van Nuys, and works for Lockheed oh no he did, but now I believe works at Douglas Plant

Dick is in Oklahoma now for about a month for the company, and both boys get good salaries.

I did work for years at the Department store of Lewis & Son in Denver; then worked for a Mail Order house there, and now have arthritis so I can't work in an office as I would love to do, but do write occasionally for magazines, or trade papers on business subjects or sometime for the "Australasian Magazine", as I am interested in New Thought discussions.

Stella had three children: Joe Martin Swindt, was the oldest and he is dead now, leaving two little boys and a wife, Janette his wife is a fine young woman, is Executive Secretary of the Tuberculosis Association, and after April 1st will be located in Ventura, California.

Then Ida was the next child, and she is married to a childhood chum, and lives in Santa Anita; Her husband has a lot of walnuts, orange groves, etc. and she has two boys.

Karl Swindt, Stella's baby, was in the war, and came home safe and in time to see his dad, Dr. Swindt, before Dr. Swindt died last December. Dr. Swindt was in the last war, and went over seas with 300 physicians under him, and did wonderful work there. He had a stroke some years ago, and has not been able to practice surgery for the last few years. About 8 years after Stella's death, he married a friend of my sister's, a fine woman who was a widow.

Karl is not married, but flies to Japan, Honolulu, China etc. and every two weeks for some company, I don't know the name, but it's sort of under the Government. He recently took several of the DMK officials back to Europe.

I can sit and type for an hour or so, then have to change positions, I get so uncomfortable. I am fine except the pain in my legs and back; can't walk about or get in and out of cars very well. Am taking special treatments now of a good doctor, but so far have seen little results.

Now I think you have a pretty good idea of the Martin family tree. If there is anything I have not covered that you are interested in and want to know about, just ask me and I'll tell you if I can. I have spent most of my time in Denver, Colorado, where I graduated at Gayley Normal School; taught country schools, then in Denver, then took a business course and worked in offices, and only came out here to live and see my mother in January 1937.

I was always crazy about Colorado, but now love California more. Either is so wonderful here; and just everything one could wish; every opportunity I think. Just like summer here now, grass green, and bushes in bloom; we have avocado trees, apricot tree, and a fig tree on the place here and a lot of roses which my sister detests; she is tall and thin but very well; cuts the lawn herself, takes care of our big yard, and does the work in the house too that I can't do; drives a car and rustles the supplies, which is a big job there days. I got so ashamed of my helplessness and the fact I can't help more.