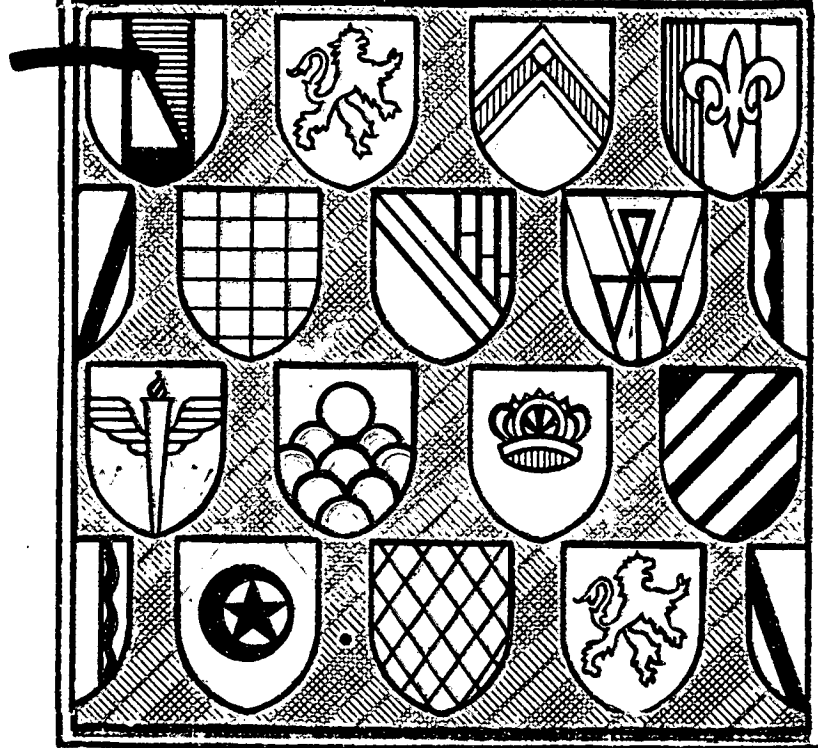


History of Shert College -
For Cathy M. Froman Club -

By Jessie E. Tandy,
Shert, Kentucky

Oct. 11 - 1933 -

St. Regis Linen



Ghent College

Without a chapter devoted to the importance of the work and influence of Ghent College, in the development of Ghent, Carroll county, and adjacent country, the history of Ghent and community would be inaccurate and incomplete.

Ghent College was one of the oldest and most famous institutions of higher learning in Northern Kentucky, and has had more to do with the formation and standardization of the educational and cultural life of this section than has any other one influence. It has furnished background and established traditions dear to the hearts of our people.

Kentucky has been awake to the importance of education for her people from her earliest days. High moral standards and desire for education were inherent in the blood of the pioneers.

Private schools were established by the pioneers in the wilderness, while

21
fathers and sons guarded the primitive
log school houses, with their rifles, against
Indian raids and wild beasts.

Some years later the need of higher
educational advantages for youth was
realized and Classical schools sprang
up in various localities. In 1798

Pennsylvania University was established
in Lexington, which is the oldest institution
of higher learning west of the Alleghenies.

A period of general educational
awakening in the state followed at this
time; when many small colleges were
established. Communities remote from
centers of population, became aroused to
the importance of higher literary and scientific
education for their children. These small
colleges had the most scholarly men in
America as instructors.

It was during this period of Ky's
educational progress that Ghent College
was founded. It was in the year 1867.

However, ^{in pre-arrangement} before Ghent College was
founded, the interest and enthusiasm of

the citizens of Ghent and community for education were marked and intense.

Capable teachers, who inspired pupils & parents alike to aim at the highest development in culture, knowledge and character were employed.

There being no adequate school building nor dormitories the whole town was a boarding house to accommodate the students who crowded into Ghent to ^{enjoy the} benefits of this educational center.

Outstanding among the teachers of pre-college days may be mentioned Messrs John Will Ellis, Thruett, William M. Clure, John J. Orr and Miss Cary M. Froman. There were doubtless many others whose names I do not recall.

Such was the origin^{and} foundation of Ghent College.

The building of Ghent College was made possible by the organization of a stock company, composed of the best citizens of the community, who financed the enterprise. ^{of shares were sold at 50¢ per share, names of the \$17,000.00 part}
Among a long list of the stock holders are remembered: Messrs Craig, Meals, Sandy, M. Clure, Keene, Lindsay.

Means, Howards, Franks, Scott, Wise, Smith
Ellis etc.

The land, on which the College building
was erected, was donated by Mr. John
O'Neal ^{who was} familiarly known as Mr. Jack O'Neal ~~which~~ was
a portion of his original farm, which is now
owned and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Howard.

The site selected for the building of
Ghent College is one of the most beautiful
places that can be imagined, situated
on a knoll to the west of town, overlooking
the Ohio river.

A three story structure of massive stone
brick and mortar was reared at great cost
and sacrifice the citizens of Ghent and community.
It stands in its strength as a monument
to the farsighted men of the past who for
years were woublers of public opinion.

The College campus comprised the
entire tract extending from the property occu-
pied by Mr. Lawrence to the old river road
which was known as Ghent and Carrolltown road.

Beautiful large forest and fruit trees dotted
the expansive ^{grounds} where were to be seen baseball

5
diamonds for the older boys, and lovely
play-grounds for the children.

The curriculum of Ghent College consisted
of a course of study equal to that of any
college of the land. It included ancient
and modern languages, full course in
higher mathematics (surveying, analytic
calculus), history, science, art. A rare
geological collection was a part of the
equipment which was donated to Ghent
College by one of its early presidents, Dr.
Wm. J. Barbee. When Ghent College ceased
to be a college and surrendered its charter
this collection of geological specimens was
donated to Transylvania University.

The degree of Bachelor of Arts, or Bachelor of
Science was conferred on those completing
the respective courses.

The first president of Ghent College
was President Elliott in 1867. Prof.
Herndon Lindsay was associate professor
of Mathematics.

The following presidents were:

J. C. S. Blackwell, J. A. Reubelt, Dr. W. J. Barbee,

J. C. Crowe, J. W. Walker. Associate professors were: Dr. Summerall, Platz, Terrell, Willis Jaudy, Hallatin Craig. These were scholarly men of high attainments, several of whom were authors of textbooks.

The music Department offered a strong course and was for many years under the direction of Mrs. W. J. Barbee, a talented and skilled musician of exceptional ability and training.

Students attended Ghent College not only from the local community and county, but came from ^{all over} this and many other states to benefit from the opportunities afforded by Ghent College and the social atmosphere of this college town. Hundreds of students gathered here every year.

Thirty-one students graduated and received degrees from Ghent College. Many of these became prominent educators, professional or business citizens in this or other lands.

Many students of Ghent College are leaders in their various localities and have filled places of usefulness and responsibility.

7
The influence of ^{the} Short College, as an institution in the lives and character of those it has touched is incalculable. No one can estimate its range and extent.

The names of the thirty-one graduates of Short College embracing a period of less than twenty-five years are:

Males: —

Silas L. Craig
Wm. Lindsay
H. Clay Smith
Willis Tandy
Walton Frank
John Frank
Gallatin Craig
H. M. Froman
Craig Fenley
Ernest Smith
Joshua Frank
Wm. B. Johnson
Willard Griffith
Albert Rice
John Sanders
Chas. H. Duncan
Geo. B. Wagner.

Females: —

Orra Smith
Mrs. Eva Smith Blackwell
Mrs. Lucy M. Froman Howe
Mrs. Effie Barber —
Mrs. Sallie Orr Duncan
Mrs. Ida M. Moore —
Mrs. Jessie E. Bridges Riblin
Miss Mary E. M^cClure
Mrs. Eva M. Frank Redgeway
Mrs. Mary E. Tandy Wise
Mrs. Annabelle Lyons Lindsay
Mrs. Maggie Tandy Ford
Mrs. Claudia M^cAnn Walne
Miss Jessie E. Tandy

With the growing spirit of public education in Kentucky, the small colleges passed away. Increasing appropriations from the state for public schools made it possible for every child to receive free education by taxation. An excellent system of public instruction prevails in Kentucky.

In the early nineties of the last century it became imperative that a new public school building should be built in Ghent school district. It was at this time that it was thought wise to transfer the Ghent College property to the school district to be used as a public school. The transfer was made and Ghent College was superseded in the early 90's by

Ghent Public Graded and High School. as such, having, served the community well - faithfully - and with its wise, public spirited board of trustees, faculty and patrons will, doubtless, continue to carry on the good work inaugurated by the founders of Old Ghent College -

Jesse E. Tandy -

Oct. 17, 1933 -

Ghent Ky