

The Gant Family History Part 3 – Living in Georgetown

An *Echo* article from July 1, 1910 also reveals other siblings of John Gant. The article says “Prof. Gant left via G.T.R. International Limited on Sunday last for Georgetown, Ont., where he will visit his brother, David Gant. At Hamilton, he will visit his sister, Mrs. R. Jackson, and will call on the old Yorkville boys and talk of days of yore. He expects to be away two weeks if he can stand the banquets arranged for his visit. The dogs in town have taken their muzzles off and will enjoy the holiday as much as their Inspector.” According to the 1861 York Census, John had other siblings including Amie/Annie, Lucinda, Barbara and what looks like the name Lepis. I was able to find information for David and Lucinda.

David lived in Georgetown, Ontario where he worked as a Barber on Mill Street. The 1881 Census lists David and his wife Margaret (Milne/Milue) and their children Paul, Margaret, Albert, Robert, David Jr., and Faith. The next Census from 1891 lists David as widowed, but still working as a Barber. Sadly, David Jr. passed away at the age of 5 years on August 25, 1883. I was also able to find the death record for another child of David and Margaret, Faith Ellen Gant. She passed away on April 20, 1922 in Brantford at the age of 39. She is listed as a housewife, but no husband is listed and she still goes by the last name Gant so whether she was married is unclear. I found two articles in *The Georgetown Herald* that mention David. The first is from December 17, 1913 and talks about David’s work as a Barber. It says “David Gant, Barber – In point of age Mr. Gant must be classed with the veterans, being now in his 75th year, though looking twelve or fifteen years younger. For thirty-five years he has been cutting the hair, trimming the whiskers and shaving the faces of Georgetown people, having come here from Toronto where he had been engaged in the same business in 1878. For thirty years he has occupied the shop he is now in, a basement at the rear of the Hotel McGibbon.”

The second article, titled 'Some Notes on Old Georgetown' which reflects on the town's history is from November 2, 1967. The article says "Back again in Mill Street, there was David Gant, barber in a down-stairs shop of the hotel. I wonder where his son Paul went to and where is now?"

According to his death record, David passed away on December 27, 1913 in Georgetown, Ontario at the age of 75. It also says he was born in Toronto circa 1838. Margaret's death record states that she passed away at the age of 80 on January 2, 1918. Her headstone says "Margaret Gant died Jan. 2, 1918 aged 80 years." It also says "Ada Milne, daughter of the above died Dec. 16, 1900 age 16 years." It is likely that Milne was Margaret's married name from a previous marriage.

David Gant's sister Lucinda married John R. Butler. Lucinda's death record says that she was the daughter of Edward Gant, born in Toronto circa 1849 and died on January 2, 1924 in Chicago, Illinois at the age of 75. The informant on her death record is Lucinda's son Jesse Butler, who was likely named after Lucinda's brother Jesse Gant. I was also able to locate John Butler's death record. He died on July 18, 1925 in Bremen, Illinois. He was a labourer and born in St. Mary's, Maryland on July 20, 1925. John and Lucinda's son Jesse was born circa 1870 and died at the age of 55 on December 14, 1925 in Chicago, Illinois. He worked as an Elevator Operator. The 1880 Census reveals that John and Lucinda had another child named Ann, but I could not find any information for her.

What we publish is not a complete history of any family and is based on the documents that are available. We welcome photos and information to fill in the gaps. See you next week for part 4.