

## **Barner Family Bible Records, 1783–1930**

*Natalie Burriss and Ethan Chitty*

A new name was entered in the Barner family Bible for a son born on January 11, 1810. Born in North Carolina, John Barner spent the first four years of his life in his birthplace until his family moved to Tennessee, where he lived for the next fourteen years.<sup>1</sup> At the age of eighteen he departed for Indiana, which had only been a state for twelve years. Traveling by foot, he made his way north, earning his keep along the way.<sup>2</sup> A skilled carpenter, Barner found work on his arrival in Indianapolis, both in and around the city. He became involved in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he married a daughter of the city, Mary Darnell, on February 27, 1831. However, a little over a year later, he and Mary with their newborn son, John, left Indianapolis to make their home in Frankfort, Indiana, joining many others moving north to the newly formed Clinton County.<sup>3</sup>

When the Barner family arrived in Frankfort in 1832, the town had been in existence for only two years, and Clinton County itself was just a few months older. Formerly part of the “Washington Territories,” the area was separated into two counties (the second, present-day Boone County) on January 29, 1830.<sup>4</sup> Although very small to begin with, the influx of new arrivals soon established Frankfort as a bustling center of commerce and activity.<sup>5</sup>

Shortly after arriving, John Barner took up positions in the community that helped it grow and prosper. In 1834 he was appointed postmaster of Frankfort, a position he maintained from 1834 until 1859, when he resigned to devote his time and energy to the job of circuit court clerk, to which he had been elected in 1843. After serving his city in this manner, he was admitted to the Clinton County bar in 1860 and later opened a practice as a probate attorney.<sup>6</sup>

Far from limiting his activities to civic duties, Barner was heavily invested in the community and the lives of those around him. A faithful church member, he served not only as a board member and later superintendent, but also as an officer and teacher in the congregation. A member of various groups and associations, he founded one and assisted others to grow and

flourish. At the forefront of technological improvements, he was a vocal advocate for the advancement of the railroad in Indiana for the continuation of progress that he had contributed to all his life.<sup>7</sup>

The following document contains names from the Barner family Bible. Tracing the passage of time, it records births, deaths, and marriages not only from the immediate Barner family but also from extended relatives in surrounding counties and states.

## Notes

1. Barner-Jones Family Papers, 1828–1971, M 0689, folder 3, page 3, William H. Smith Memorial Library, Indiana Historical Society; Joseph Claybaugh, *History of Clinton County, Indiana: With Historical Sketches of Representative Citizens and Genealogical Records of Many of the Old Families* (Indianapolis: A. W. Bowen & Co., 1913), 376.
2. *History of Clinton County, Indiana: Together with Sketches of Its Cities, Villages and Towns, Educational, Religious, Civil, Military, and Political History, Portraits of Prominent Persons, and Biographies of Representative Citizens* (Chicago: Inter-state Pub. Co., 1886), 416–17.
3. *Memorial Services of the Life and Character of John Barner: A Pioneer Citizen of Frankfort, Ind.* (Frankfort, IN: Press of the Times, 1893), 69, 71; Claybaugh, *History of Clinton County*, 377; *History of Clinton County* (1886), 599.
4. *History of Clinton County* (1886), 339. This contains an account of the Washington Territories and the establishment of Clinton and Boone Counties.
5. *History of Clinton County* (1886), 599; De Witt C. Goodrich and Charles R. Tuttle, *An Illustrated History of the State of Indiana: Being a Full and Authentic Civil and Political History of the State from Its First Exploration to 1875* (Indianapolis: R. S. Peale & Co., 1875), 516.
6. Claybaugh, *History of Clinton County*, 377; *History of Clinton County* (1886), 417.
7. Claybaugh, *History of Clinton County*, 377, 378. Claybaugh discusses Barner's various positions in the Methodist Episcopal Church as well as his deep participation in Frankfort's community organizations. *History of Clinton County* (1886), 418.

**Barner Family Bible Records, 1783–1930**

**[Page 1]**

Births

Elizabeth Hopkinson, born Indiana Rush County, June 6th, 1826

Silas Hopkinson, born Indiana the 11th of January 1829 Dead

Westley Hopkinson, dead, born in Indiana, Carroll County May the 16th, 1830

Caleb Hopkinson born Indiana Carroll County December 3, 1832

Mary Hopkinson, Carroll County, December 24, 1833

Wm and Rebekah Hopkinson, Born and died March the 1-1836

Deaths

J. T. Hopkinson, dead March 11th, 1839, Monday morning 9 o'clock, Aged 49 years 4 months 3 weeks In the town of Delphi County of Carroll, State of Indiana

**[Page 2]**

Births

Martha Hopkinson, born Oct the 13 1837, Indiana Carroll Co

Deaths

Martha M. Barner, February 9th, 1903

Elizabeth Hopkinson, February 19th, 1907

Barnabas Hopkinson, April 8 1907

**[Page 3]**

Births

John Barner was born North Carolina January 11, 1810 North Carolina, son of Horatio Barner

Mary Barner, his wife daughter of James Darnell was born Sept 17, 1810, Clark Co Ky.

John Harrison Barner, son of John Barner was born Indianapolis Feb. the 11th 1832

David Parry Barner born October 29th 1833 son of Jno. Barner Frankfort

Mary Elizabeth Barner daughter of Jno & Mary Barner, was born April 22, AD 1836, Frankfort

Judith, daughter of John & Mary Barner was born December 21st, AD 1838

Indiana Sarah Barner born September 26th 1845 daughter of John & Mary Barner in Frankfort

Deaths

Dear daughter born June 7 1841 & died in 2 or 3 hours

**[Page 4]**

Births

Horatio Barner Sr. (father of John) June 1st in Virginia 1783

Elizabeth Crissman, (now Elizabeth Barner, mother of John) November 3rd 1787 N.C.

Horatio Barner Jr., brother of John & son of Horatio, April 23rd 1813 N. C.

Judith Barner, sister of John & daughter of Horatio & Elizabeth Barner born January 20th, 1807 in N. C. Was a resident of Lawrence Co Ind last husbands name Webb she died Dec. 18 1879

**[Page 5]**

Marriages

John Barner was married Feby 27 AD 1831 To Mary Darnell at Indianapolis Ind by Rev Thomas S. Hitt Pastor of M E Church

Deaths

Mary Barner died in Frankfort June 21 1884 age 73 yrs

John H. Barner died in St Augustine, Florida April 22 1885 and was buried in I O O F Cemetery in Frankfort, April 28 1885

John Barner died in Frankfort, Indiana, Thursday March 31, 1892 at 10 o' clock A.M., and was buried in I O O F Cemetery, Tuesday April 5, 1892 at about 10:30 A.M.

In waking from a sleep, some time before his death, he remarked, "The Record is all right."

**[Page 6]**

Births

J. T. Hopkinson, born October 20<sup>th</sup> 1789 [written in another hand] 15 Oct 1789 Conn.

Lydia Hopkinson, born November 4<sup>th</sup> 1802

Paul Hopkinson born Kentucky Boon[e] County Jan 9th [?] 1920

George Hopkinson Born Indiana Switzerland[?] Co., Ind. December the 23 1821

Barnabas Hopkinson Born Ohio Cincinnati January the 7 1824

Deaths

George Hopkinson died Cincinnati April the 10 the 1823

Caleb Hopkinson Died In May the 11 1832

Paul W. Hopkinson die[d] [?] the 27 1855

**[Page 7]**

Marriages

Jonah J. Hopkinson and Lydia Powers Married February 9th 1819

Jonah Hopkinson was great-great-great grandfather of N. G. B. J.

Mary F. Hopkinson married August the 4 to Samuel N. Wilson 1855

Martha M. Hopkinson to David P. Barner, at Jefferson, Ind., October 19, 1858

**[Page 8]**

J. Hopkinson's Book of N. Conway  
Delphi Indiana Carroll County  
Sept the 20 1937—

**[Page 9]**

Lydia Hopkinson, wife of T. Hopkinson, born Nov. 8, 1802. Died Sept. 1862

Lydia Powers and Jonah T. Hopkinson married Feb. 9, 1819

J. T. Hopkinson born Oct. 20, 1789. Died March 11, 1839, Monday A.M. 9 o'clock, age 49 years  
4 months 3 weeks. Delphi, Carroll Co., Indiana

**[Page 10]**

John Barner Sr. Born Jan 11th 1810 Died Mar. 31 1892

Mary Barner, wife of John Sr. Born Sep 17th 1810 Died June 21 1884

John H. Barner son of John Sr. Born Feb 11, 1832 Died April 22, 1885

Norma Alley Barner wife of John N. Barner Born 1849 Died July 25 1906

Mary Barner Hall daughter of John Barner Sr. Born April 22, 1836 Died May 30, 1914

David P. Barner son of John Barner Sr. Born Oct 29 1833 Died April 4 1923

Martha M. Barner wife of David P. Barner Born Oct. 13, 1837 Died Feb. 8, 1903

Judith Barner Sample daughter of John Barner Sr Born Dec 1838 Died Jan 12, 1916

Indiana Barner Cottingham daughter of John Barner Sr. Born Sept 26th 1845 Died June 16 1932

Horatio B. born June 1 1783

Elizabeth Nov. 3 1787

Judith Jan 20 1807

John Jany 11 1810

Horatio B, Jr April 23 1813

David P. Barner Born - Oct. 29. 1833. Died - Apr. 4 1923.

Martha M. Barner. Born. Oct. 13, 1937 Died. Feb. 9, 1903.

John H. Barner Jr. Born. Aug. 26, 1859. Died July 17, 1881

Lee Given Barner Born 1/25/[18]70 Died 1/18/[18]71

**[pages 11 and 12 are typescripts of previous pages and have been omitted]**

**[Page 13]**

John Barner March 31, 1892

John H. Barner, Jr. April 22, [18]85

J. P. Barner

J. S.[?] Barner Jr. Jul 17, 1881

Bird Barner

Ben. Barner

Carroll County

John H. Koontz Co. M 126th Regt Ind Vol 11th Cav Delphi Date of muster 1/30/? Mustered out 9/17/? at Delphi

James H. Koontze Feb 26, 65

Samuel Koontz muster 26 Dec 63 [transferred?] 2nd Cav [reorganized?] Co. A 41st Regt. (2nd Caval[r]y)

great-great-great Grandfather

Jonah Hopkinson Born 15 Oct 1789 Conn. Grew up in N. Y. Mondage Co. Switzerland Co., Ind.  
1818

Married Lydia Powers 19 Feb 1819 Lived in Rush Co., Ky 5 years

[Online Connections](#)

[Family Records](#)