

Obituary Abstracts from the *Western Christian Advocate*, 1834–1835

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The *Western Christian Advocate (WCA)* was a weekly newspaper produced by the Methodist Church. Its New York-based parent organization, the *Christian Advocate and Journal*, was widely read and in 1831, was the highest-circulating newspaper in the country. An increased demand for Methodist news in the Midwest led to the creation of the *WCA*, based out of Cincinnati, Ohio. Circulation, mostly targeted to Kentucky, Ohio, and Indiana residents, began in 1834 with pressruns reaching 14,000 by 1840. Publication of the newspaper ended in 1939.¹

In 1988 Indiana Historical Society staff abstracted obituaries from the 1834 to 1850 issues of the Methodist paper and published them in book form. This article focuses on the years 1834 and 1835, the first two years of the *WCA*'s existence. The entries included in this article contain at least one nod to time spent in Indiana by these individuals, whether that was birth, death, or residential stints.

Deaths of loved ones were also recorded in the *WCA* by family members and preachers connected to the Methodist Church, but the friends and family mentioned may or may not have been Methodist. Some of the obituaries explicitly state the deceased's non-Methodist affiliation. Reported deaths provide rich biographical information in addition to membership status in various churches, making obituaries a great resource for family history research. For example, readers learn when and where Maria De Long died, her maiden name, her husband's name, and where Maria may have lived throughout her life.²

The dates in brackets at the end of each entry indicate the date the obituary was published in the *WCA*. Information in brackets such as these “[]” is from the editors/compiler of the *WCA*. Information in brackets such as these “{ }” is from the authors of this article.

Notes

1. Margaret R. Waters, Dorothy Riker, and Doris Leistner, compilers and editors, *Abstracts of Obituaries in the Western Christian Advocate, 1834–1850* (Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society, 1988), vii. Copies of this book are sold in the Basile History Market; call 317-234-0020.
2. *Ibid.*, 8.

Indiana Obituaries in the *Western Christian Advocate*, 1834–1835

Guard, Mrs.; d 27 Feb 34, in 41st yr., Lawrenceburg, IN; mar. Guard, Bailey; Issue 9 chn. [9 May 34]

Robinson, William; b Newtown–Butler, Co. Fermanugh, Ireland; d 24 Mar 34, Madison, IN; mar. 1808, Baltimore, MD, Fearson, Mary W.; Issue: Several chn; to U.S. in 1800; lived in Baltimore; to Madison abt 14 yrs. previous. [30 May 34]

Lindsey, Sarah; b 1808, Eastern, TN; d 5 Jun 34, Orange Co., IN; mar.; Issue: 2 chn; Parents to IN in 1818, near Orleans. [4 Jul 34]

Davis, Benjamin, Rev.; b MD; d 19 May 34, Clarke Co., IN in 37th yr.; migrated to KY, then to IN. [18 Jul 34]

Beall, James A. H.; b 16 Feb 08, Campbell Co., KY; d 23 Jul 34, Columbus, IN; Mar.; Issue: daughter; Brother: Beall, E. J.; Columbus, IN Orphaned; lived with grandmother; wife survived; bros and sisters. [29 Aug 34]

Perine, William T.; b 22 Nov 13, New York, NY; d 22 Aug 34, Dearborn Co., IN; Parents to IN abt 1815; brothers and sisters. [12 Sept 34]

Locke, George, Rev.; b 8 Jun 1797, Mason Co., KY; d 15 Jul 34, New Albany, IN; mar.; Issue: chn; lived TN, IL to IN in 1832. [19 Sep 34]

Griffith, Nehemiah B., Rev.; b 1798, Whitehall, Washington Co., NY; d 22 Aug 34, in 36th yr., St. Joseph Co., IN; mar.; Issue: chn; In 18th yr. moved to OH with father; wife; parents; bros and sisters survived. [17 Oct 34]

Jaquiss, Matilda; b 6 Jan 09; d 5 Oct 34, near Mt. Carmel, IN; dau of Nisbit, James & Hannah; mar. Oct 25, Jaquiss, OH; Issue: chn; 1m old infant died a few hrs. earlier; parents from Harrison Circ. KY, to Posey Co., IN in 1818. [7 Nov 34]

Thompson, Anthony; b PA; d 21 May 34, in 76th yr., Davies Co., KY; mar. 50 yrs.; Issue: 8 chn; Rachel; James L. of Centreville, IN; 3 sons, the youngest dead. [7 Nov 34]

Harker, John; d 15 Oct 34, aged nearly 62, Shelby Co., IN. [6 Mar 35]

Buell, Samuel; d 29 Feb 35, in 71st yr., prob Rising Sun, IN. [3 Apr 35]

Walker, Susanna; d 11 Feb 35, aged 67, Rising Sun, IN. [3 Apr 35]

Sanders, Hannah; b VT; d 2 Mar 35, in 23rd yr., Bellville, IN; dau of Tanner, James & Lucy; parents died in NY when she was young. [24 Apr 35]

Armstrong, James, Rev.; b Ireland; d 12 Sep 34, St. Joseph Co., IN, or LaPorte Co., IN; Family to Philadelphia, PA when James was a child; James later to Baltimore. Bur in Northern IN. [1 May 35; 26 Sep 34]

Jean, Sarah; d 9 Apr 35, Carlisle, IN; mar. in her 22nd yr., Jean, John; Issue: 2 sons; to Carlisle, IN 19 yrs. prev. [1 May 35]

Miller, Catherine; b 15 Sep 07, NC; d 4 Apr 35, Salem, IN; mar. Miller, J., Rev.; Issue: 4 small chn. [1 May 35]

Cravens, Jane; d 16 Apr 35, abt 60, Salem Circuit, IN; mar. Carvens *{sic?}*, William, Rev.; Widow; Son-in-law, William Shanks; bur next to 1st husband. [8 May 35]

McKinney, Charlotte; d 21 Apr 35, Covington, IN; dau of Nebeker, Lucas; mar. 1830, McKinney, John; Issue: chn; father early to Covington. [22 May 35]

Wood, Louisa; d 29 Apr 35, Madison, IN; dau of Willard; mar. abt 1832, Wood, Enoch G, Rev.; Issue: dau less than 1 yr. old.; bur near Madison. [22 May 35]

De Long, Maria; d 8 May 35, Lexington, IN; dau of Kikendall, John; mar. De Long, Amasa; of Barron Co., KY. Died while on the way to father's home in Jefferson Co., IN. Issue: 3 chn. [5 Jun 35]

Shaw, Alethea; b 17 Jun 1799; d 2 Mar 35, Covington, Fountain Co., IN; mar.; 3 eldest sons drowned in Sandusky River in 1821. [12 Jun 35]

Bristow, Rachel, d 16 May 35, aged 49, Troy, Perry Co., IN; dau of Howel, John & Esther; mar. Bristow, John; Issue: chn, [19 Jun 35]

Robe, Andrew, Sr.; d 13 Mar 35, prob Indianapolis, IN. [26 Jun 35]

Larkin, Leonard S.; d 15 Jun 35, in 24th yr., Rush Co., IN; Brother: Larkin, Benjamin. [3 Jul 35]

Neeld, Sally; d 03 Jun 35, in 36th yr., near Bloomington, IN; mar. Neeld, Benjamin; 6 chn. [3 Jul 35]

Beggs, James; b Rockingham, Co., VA; d 13 May 35, aged 67y., 1m. 9d., Charlestown Circuit, IN; mar. (wife deceased); Issue: dau; son died short time previously; another dau dead.
[17 Jul 35]

Kelso, William; b 1783, PA; d 16 Mar 35, Sullivan Co., IN; mar.; Issue: small chn and one grown dau; Family to KY in 1784. [17 Jul 35]

Evans, Mary Eliza; d abt 15 Jul 35, aged 18 m., near Clarksville {state not listed}; dau of Evans, Samuel W. [24 Jul 35]

Greenfield, William; d 16 Jul 35, Clarksville {state not listed}; firm of William Greenfield, Cromwell and Company. [24 Jul 35]

King, Madison; d 17 Jul 35, Clarksville {state not listed}. [24 Jul 35]

Kirk, Lawrence; d 17 Jul 35, Clarksville {state not listed}; was of Nashville {state not listed}.
[24 Jul 35]

McClure, Julia Ann; d 12 Jul 35, Clarksville {state not listed}; dau of Mitchell, Mrs. [24 Jul 35]

Wouldridge, Mrs.; d 16 Jul 35, Clarksville {state not listed}; mar. Wouldridge, Samuel.
[24 Jul 35]

Gillam, Mary; b 1796, Botecourt Co., VA; d 26 Jun 35, Carrol Co., IN; mar.; Issue: chn.
[31 Jul 35]

Hall, Gilbert; b Accomac Co., VA; d 26 Jul 35, aged abt 55, Rising Sun, IN; To IN 1815.
[14 Aug 35]

Kenyon, Elizabeth; b VA; d 11 Jul 35, in 59th yr., Montgomery Co., IN; Mar. twice, both deceased; Issue: More than 4 chn. [14 Aug 35]

Sullivan, Mary Ann {first listing in *WCA*}; d 3 Aug 35, Portsmouth, OH; dau of Brooks, Moses; mar. Sullivan, J. W.; Madison, IN. Bur at Cincinnati, next to mother, bro, and other relatives, all of whom died within a few years. [14 Aug 35]

Sullivan, Mary Ann {second listing in *WCA*; somewhat different than first listing}; d 3 Aug 35, Madison, IN; dau of Brooks, Moses; Cincinnati, OH; mar. Sullivan, John W., Rev.; Issue: 1 child. [21 Aug 35]

Kelsey, Thomas; b Montgomery Co., OH; d 25 Apr 35, in 19th yr., Montgomery Co., IN; son of Kelsey, Isaac; father to KY 3–yrs., then to IN. [28 Aug 35]

Williams, Martha Ann; b 9 Jun 18, Montgomery Co., KY; d 29 Aug 35, Fayette Co., IN; When an infant, father took family to Tuscaloosa, AL then to Fayette Co., IN. [4 Sept 35]

Hinkston, Catherine; d 25 Jul 35, near Connersville, IN; Sent in from Centreville, IN. [18 Sep 35]

Thompson, Rachel; d 15 Aug 35, in 71st yr., Booneville Circuit, IN. [25 Sep 35]

Beach, Margaret Ann; d 29 Sep 35, in 3rd yr., Franklin, IN; dau of Beach, Ancil, Rev.; youngest dau. [2 Oct 35]

John, Nancy S.; b 8 Jun 1799; d 3 Oct 35, Lawrenceburg, IN; dau of Stewart, Abraham, Fayette Co., PA; mar. Fall of 1820, prob Brookville, IN, John, Enoch D.; Issue: 5 chn; 2 brothers. [16 Oct 35]

Ketchem, David; b Shelby Co., KY; d 29 Sep 35, 48y, 2d., Charlestown Circuit, IN; mar. at early age; Issue: 10 chn; To IN after marriage to C. County (prob Clarke). [16 Oct 35]

Smith, Dormin; b 27 Feb 1772, MD; d 9 Sep 35, IN; mar.; To IN 1819. [23 Oct 35]

Sewell, Thomas, Rev.; b 06 Nov 1791; d 12 Aug 34, Orange Co., IN; mar. 06 Oct 14, Shirley, Ann C.; d Fall of 1833; Issue: 5 chn; To OH after marriage, then IN. [13 Nov 35]

Smith, David; b 22 Feb 1743, NJ; d 9 Sep 35, Near Shelbyville, Shelby Co., IN; First a Presbyterian, later a Baptist. [27 Nov 35]

Cup (MALE), Dr.; b Germany; d abt Oct 35, Aged abt 30, Jackson Co., IN; To U.S. 2 yrs. before. Had lived in Cincinnati & Newport, KY, was on way to Rockford; could speak little English; name sounded like Cup. [4 Dec 35]