

## **Hoosier Baptists: The Anti-Slavery and African American Associations with Names Listed in Annual Meeting Minutes**

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In the 2009 Spring/Summer edition of *The Hoosier Genealogist: Connections*, Timothy Mohon published an account of anti-slavery and African American Baptist associations in Indiana.<sup>1</sup> The Liberty and Jubilee Associations were identified as anti-slavery, which meant that they refused to correspond with Baptists in slave-holding territories. Records for these two associations have not been found. However, Mohon also notes three African American associations beginning in the mid-nineteenth century in Indiana: the Gallation [sic], the Indiana, and the Eastern Indiana. The latter two associations have records that include death notices.<sup>2</sup> Some of the death notices have genealogical data, while some only list the church the member attended.

In the death notices, following each name is the year of the printed minutes that are abstracted, page number for the entry, and either a brief account or a full listing of the notice. Dates preceded by “SS” indicates that the information was located in meeting minutes kept for a Sunday School convention. See the appendix at the end of this article for a list of Baptist titles and abbreviations found in the death notices.

### **Notes**

1. Timothy Mohon, “Hoosier Baptists—Part 1: Anti-slavery Associations, 1826–1830s, and African American Associations and Death Notices from Annual Minutes, 1848–1912,” *The Hoosier Genealogist: Connections* 49 (Spring/Summer 2009): 42–51.
2. For a list of where these and other Hoosier Baptist Association Records are housed, see: “Hoosier Baptist Records, 1809–2006: A Roster of Indiana Associations with an Inventory of Their Published Proceedings by Repository and a List of Associational

Minutes Printed in the Annual Proceedings of the Indiana Baptist Convention,” published in Online Connections, <http://www.indianahistory.org/our-services/books-publications/magazines/online-connections/general-records/Hoosier%20Baptist%20Records%20Roster.pdf>.

### **Indiana Association Death Notices**

**Baker**, Sis. Mary (SS: 1884): 5; “God in his all wise providence has seen fit to remove from our midst, a very earnest worker in the S.S., Mary Baker, of Evansville, Ind.”

**Banks**, Dea. Albert (1876): 27.

**Bardie**, Dea. C. L. (1898): 14; “We find that it has pleased the almighty God to remove from our midst Deacons C. L. Bardie of Evansville, Isaac Mahon and Elder W. M. Singleton of Indianapolis, one of the old Fathers of the Gospel, whose work will ever live.”

**Barrett**, Bro. Joseph (1872): 14; member and trustee, Indianapolis, Second church.

**Bloodworth**, Rev. H. (1887): 22–23.

**Brown**, Bro. T. H. (SS: 1887): 12; “It has pleased Almighty God in His wise providence to remove from our presence our dear sister and brother, Harriet Lewellyn, of Indianapolis and T. H. Brown, of Evansville, who were faithful workers both in the Sunday school and Sunday school Conventions.”

**Bundy**, Lic. J. H. (1879): 12.

**Cook**, Rev. J. D. (SS: 1885): 6; “Whereas, it has pleased God in His allwise providence to remove from our midst Sister Sallie Tucker, a worthy teacher of the Olivet school of Indianapolis, Brother James Hines, of Mitchell, Sister Walker, of Jeffersonville, Rev. J. D. Cook, of Brazil, and Sister Mary Cook, of Mt. Zion school of Indianapolis, and, whereas, these worthy ones rendered such good works we therefore place upon record our appreciation of their service.”

**Cook**, Sis. Mary (SS: 1885): 6; *see entry for Cook, Rev. J. D.*

**Davis**, Eld. Nelson (1876): 4, 27; Indianapolis.

**Dunlap**, Eld. J. B. (1872): 14; Jeffersonville, Second church.

**Evans**, Bro. Silas (1879): 12.

**Glover**, Eld. George W. (1876): 4, 27; Vigo County.

**Grimes**, Eld. Joseph (1889): 9, 20; “Whereas, God in His all-wise providence, has seen fit to remove by the hand of death, on the 29th day of June, 1889, our beloved brother, Elder J. Grimes, of the Baker’s Creek Church. He leaves a beloved wife and one child to mourn his loss, together with the Church and members of the Ministerial Convention. He died at the age of forty-nine years.”

**Harris**, Dea. (1876): 27.

**Hines**, Bro. James (SS: 1885): 6; *see entry for Cook, Rev. J. D.*

**Lewellyn**, Sis. Harriet (SS: 1887): 12; *see entry for Brown, Bro. T. H.*

**Mahon**, Dea. Isaac (1898): 14; *see entry for Bardie, Dea. C. L.*

**Newsome**, Bro. E. D. (1887): 22–23.

**Numon**, Bro. J. S. (1887): 22–23.

**Ross**, Dea. Jacob (1879): 12.

**Sales**, Dea. M. (1876): 27.

**Singleton**, Eld. Wm. (1898): 8; “We find that the hand of Providence has visited our ranks and has called from labor to reward Elder Wm. Singleton, one of the old fathers of the Gospel, who has done much to build up the Baptist cause in the state of Indiana. He organized the Mt. Zion church of Indianapolis, and preached to it as pastor for several years, and also pastored the Second Baptist church of Bloomington, Ind., also aided in the organization of many of the churches of the state as one of our oldest Baptist ministers. . . . We also extend our heartfelt sympathy to the grief stricken family.”; *see also the entry for Bardie, Dea. C. L., where Singleton is listed as “W. M.”*

**Spencer**, Bro. C. (1879): 12.

**Steel**, Bro. Marshall (SS: 1874): 3–4; “Elder M. Broyles announced, that owing to the death of Bro. Marshall Steel, one of the Trustees of his Church [Indianapolis, Second], he had received a telegram from the widow requesting him to come home and preach the funeral. He therefore desired the Convention to excuse him. . . . On motion he was excused.”

**Stewart**, Eld. John (1879): 12.

**Taylor**, Dea. Primus (1876): 27.

**Tucker**, Sis. Sallie (SS: 1885): 6; *see entry for Cook, Rev. J. D.*

**Walker**, Sis. (SS: 1885): 6; *see entry for Cook, Rev. J. D.*

**Walker**, Bro. Willis (1887): 6, 22–23.

### **Eastern Indiana Association Death Notices**

**Bassett**, Rev. R., Sr. (1894): 7, 16; “Rev. R. Bassett, Sr., of Howard County, one of the pioneer Baptist ministers of the state, who was in the organization of the Indiana Baptist Association thirty-seven years ago, and was an active and earnest worker in its ranks until the organization of the Eastern Indiana Association and Convention in 1883. Since then his labors have been with us, until his failing health and advanced years prevented his presence; even then he showed his zeal for the cause and love for the Master by sending his annual dues, until he, at the ripe age of 80 years, departed this life. Brother Bassett was an affectionate, kind-hearted minister and fatherly in his treatment toward the brethren.”

**Boyer**, Dea. Henry (1886): 13–14.

**Brown**, Sis. Effie (1885): 14; New Albany, Second church.

**Bush**, Sis. Hattie (1885): 14; New Albany, Second church.

**Campbell**, Sis. Matilda (1885): 14; New Albany, Second church.

**Crucher**, Bro. Harry (1885): 14; New Albany, Second church.

**Edwards**, Sis. Delia (1885): 14; Corinthian church, Indianapolis.

**Hawket**, Bro. Booker (1885): 14; New Albany, Second church.

**Hord**, Bro. John (1885): 14; Zion church, Noblesville.

**Lindsey**, Sis. Bettie (1885): 14; New Albany, Second church.

**Medcalf**, Bro. Wallis (1885): 14; Charleston, Second church.

**Mitchel**, Sis. Carrie (1885): 14; Zion church, Noblesville.

**Mitchem**, Sis. Lucinda (1885): 14; New Albany, Second church.

**Newsom**, Rev. A. W. (1894): 7, 16; “Rev. A. W. Newsom, our last state missionary, left the scenes of mortal life in March, 1894. He was a minister of the Gospel of no mean repute; a close student, an earnest worker and a dignified Christian gentleman, possessing those ministerial qualities that placed him in the front rank of the profession.”

**Owens**, Sis. (1885): 14; New Albany, Second church.

**Patterson**, Rev. Isham (1886): 6, 13–14; pastor, Reed Street church, Indianapolis.

**Reily**, Sis. Laura (1885): 14; New Albany, Second church.

**Rhone**, Sis. Sarah (1885): 14; New Albany, Second church.

**Truman**, Bro. Alonza (1885): 14; New Albany, Second church.

**Warren**, Bro. William (1893): 17; Richmond, Second church.

**Williams**, Rev. Henry (1894): 16.

**Wooten**, Dea. Solomon (1886): 13–14.

### **Appendix: Baptist Titles and Title Abbreviations**

**Brother (Bro.) or Sister (Sis.):** Customary designation for laypeople.

**Deacon (Dea.):** Layperson ordained to give spiritual leadership and assist the pastor in a congregation.

**Doctor of Divinity (DD):** Honorary academic degree granted by a college or university to recognize years of excellent service in the ministry and, usually, in that institution. Most nineteenth-century Baptist pastors with a doctorate possessed this degree.

**Doctor of Theology (ThD):** Four-year academic degree granted by a seminary or university; largely replaced today by Doctor of Ministry (DMin) and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD).

**Elder (Eld.):** Ordained ministers or pastors; generally synonymous with Reverend (Rev.), although Primitive Baptists used the title of Elder exclusively.

**Licentiate (Lic.):** Individual in a preparatory stage to ordination.

**Messenger:** Individual appointed to represent his home church in an associational meeting (hence the church that a messenger is listed with in associational meeting minutes is his home church).

**Missionary:** Individual appointed to serve as pastor, evangelist, and/or to start new churches. If serving as pastor, church records list individual as such, and missionary status is discerned from missionary and executive board reports and denominational proceeding minutes.

**Pastor:** Individual who serves a local church by preaching, administration, and/or counseling. Before 1900 most pastors served one to four churches simultaneously, and their services were usually limited to preaching.

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