

## African American Deaths, 1890-1894

11 April 2010  
compiled by Bill Page

Dan Stevenson, a Negro who has for years resided on Dave Hardy's place near White's Switch, was taken ill Thursday and died Saturday. Nearly everyone in the county knew "Old Dan" especially the "electioneering bosses," and I suppose will regret to learn of his sudden demise. (weekly) Bryan Eagle, 2 Jan. 1890, p.1, col.3

\*Infant child of Eda BECK died from "malarial fever"; was buried on 9 Dec. 1889. (weekly) Bryan Eagle, 9 Jan. 1890, p.1, col.6

[Mrs. Talley] ... The subject of this sketch was born in Virginia in the year of our Lord 1806, where she resided until the year 1840, when she sought a fairer home in the State of Texas where she was connected with the Salem church and remained as mother of that church for about fifteen years, when she connected herself with the Shiloh Baptist church of Bryan, of which church she was a member when she died. She leaves 12 children, 68 grandchildren, 54 great grandchildren. Her funeral took place at the Shiloh Baptist church at Bryan, Tuesday, Jan. 29th, 1890. The funeral obsequies were conducted by Rev. D. H. Shivers, pastor of said church, and Rev. H. McKenna, pastor of Little Bethel A.M.E. church, Hearne. The Christian Recorder, 6 March 1890

Lee Morris, son of Col. John Morris of Brazos County, now living at Bryan, shot and killed a Negro in a quarrel over a game of baseball. San Antonio Daily Light, 5 June 1890, p.2

Peter Hall was waylaid and killed by Nash Knox near Bryan. Both colored. San Antonio Daily Light, 21 February 1890, page 1

\*Peter HALL, a preacher, was murdered by Mr. Wash KNOX near Stearne's Chapel. Brenham Daily Banner, 23 Feb. 1890, p.1, col.3.

Peter Hall was assassinated on the night of the 18<sup>th</sup> inst. as he was returning home from preaching at Sterne's Chapel, three miles east of Bryan, by another Negro, Wash Knox, who says that he killed Peter because he had taken his wife away from him and was keeping her ... (article continues) ....(weekly) Bryan Eagle, 27 Feb. 1890, p.1, col.3.

\*John BLOODWORTH, was shot & killed; lived on M.R. MILLICAN's place, 2 miles north of Millican. Brenham Weekly Banner, 1 May 1890, p.1, col.3

A Negro convict is accidentally drowned at Millican, while attempting to cross a swollen stream in a skiff. San Antonio Daily Light, 9 May 1890, p.1

Bryan ... Yesterday County Attorney Hudson received from Gov. Ross two proclamations. One is the offer of \$300 reward for the arrest of the unknown parties who took the Negro J. Biggs from his house on the 8<sup>th</sup> of October last and whipped him. The other is an offer of the same sum for the arrest of the unknown party or parties who killed Bill Mode, a Negro of Brazos County, on the 1<sup>st</sup> of this month ... Dallas Morning News, December 15, 1890, p.7

Denison, Tex., April 1 – Tom Randle, colored, en route from Eufalia, I.T., to Bryan, Tex., died at the union depot in Denison this morning. Two years ago Randle was convicted of stealing cattle in Brazos County, but made his escape from the officers and fled to the Indian territory. A few weeks ago his family left Bryan and joined him at Eufala, at which place he had been residing some time. Sheriff T.C. Nunn of Brazos County learned of the movement, went to Eufalia and last night Randle was delivered into his possession by an officer of the Indian territory. The Negro was sick with the pneumonia, but the attending physician stated that in his judgment the man was able to make the trip. Sheriff Nunn expresses much regret at the sudden turn of affairs here. He stated to The News correspondent that he did not entertain the slightest idea but what the man was abundantly able to make the trip, and had he known his true condition he would not have started with him under any circumstances. An inquest was held and a decision rendered in accordance with the circumstances as narrated. Dallas Morning News, 2 April 1891, page 3.

### **Died in Jail**

Bryan, Tex., April 1, The candidates for the city election are making things lively. Lee Hughes, a Negro boy convicted and sentenced to a term in the penitentiary for burglary, at the recent session of the district court, died in jail here on March 30. Fort Worth Daily Gazette, 3 April 1891, page ?

Wade HAMILTON, a barber, was stabbed to death at Bryan by Amos THORNTON, another barber. Brenham Weekly Banner, 4 June 1891, p.1, col.3. Galveston Daily News, 2 June 1891, p.1, col.6

\*Alice WILLIAMS, accidentally killed at Mudville. Brenham Weekly Banner, 1 October 1891, p.2, col.2

### **Killed Himself Accidentally**

Bryan ... Last night at about 2 o'clock Gus Julian a Negro brickmason at work upon the new barracks at the college, shot himself accidentally while removing a pistol from his pocket. The ball passed through his lower bowels and came out near his spine. He died shortly afterward and was removed to Houston for burial by the colored Odd Fellows, of which order he was a member. Dallas Morning News, 21 October 1891, p.5

## **A Christmas Killing**

Bryan – News comes to Bryan this morning of a shooting which occurred last night in the Bethel neighborhood, about six miles from here. As the officers who went to Bethel to investigate the affair have not returned, but little can be learned. It is only known that Ben Taylor, a Negro, went to the home of Alf Bell, another Negro, and while talking with Bell, Taylor shot him through the body. Bell then seized Taylor's pistol and wrenched it from him, shot and killed Taylor. It is thought Bell will also die. Dallas Morning News, 27 Dec. 1891, p.12

\*John BERRIMAN accidentally shot & killed himself; lived on KOPPE plantation. Galveston Daily News, 20 Feb. 1892, p.3, col.3

Bryan ... Old Uncle James Hodges, a venerable old Negro of Bryan, died here last Thursday and was buried yesterday. Uncle Jim, as he was known, was the gravedigger at the Bryan Cemetery for nearly twenty-five years, and has laid the sod upon hundreds of people in that time, both rich and poor. Galveston Daily News, 24 July 1892, page 1

Wellborn, Tex., Aug. 29 – Wednesday a little Negro girl five years of age, while playing with other children in a skiff tied to the ferry boat at Koppe's crossing on the Brazos River fell in and was drowned. The body was carried by the current down the stream and was not found until Thursday evening. Dallas Morning News, 31 August 1892, page 6

Bryan, Texas, March 13 – Today as the 12.27 p.m. Houston and Texas Central passenger train was leaving Bryan it struck Mark Taylor, a colored man, and fractured his skull, from the effects of which he is now dying. Taylor was working for Mr. Frank Wallace, a well-known Brazos County farmer, who lives about six miles from here, and was unloading seed in Colonel A.C.L. Hill's seed house on the railroad reservation near the track when the train came by. Fearing the team would be frightened, Taylor got out of the wagon to hold them. As the train rushed by one of the mules lunged forward and threw Taylor against the cowcatcher, with the result as related. The train was stopped and the man was picked up. A crowd shortly gathered and officers took charge of the unfortunate Negro, while the train proceeded north. Mark Taylor was an orderly and hard working Negro, and when hurt had in his pockets \$50 in money, his savings for the past year, and which had just been paid him by Mr. Wallace. Justice of the Peace Thomas Johnson held the inquest. Houston Daily Post, 14 March 1893, p.7, col.6

## **Died from the Effects of an Accidental Shot**

Bryan, Texas – Ed Hopkins, the colored man who, while out hunting plover a few days ago, shot himself in the left arm, died from the effect of the wound yesterday and was buried today. Houston Daily Post, 8 April 1893, p.2, col.4

Bryan ... A colored man, who cooks for Mr. Thomas Boyett, shot himself accidentally some days since while seeking game for the pot. A Negro doctor amputated his arm which was wounded and death resulted soon after. Houston Daily Post, 15 April 1893, p.5, col.2

### **Died of Poison**

Bryan, Tex., Sept. 24 - The Negro blacksmith, Averyheart, died yesterday from the effects of poison administered by some person or persons one night last week. He was never able to make a statement. His funeral occurred to-day. Physicians held a postmortem examination this morning and removed the stomach. They are satisfied it is a case of poisoning, but have not determined what the poison was. Dallas Morning News, 26 Sept.1893, p.6

\*George RANDLE was shot & dangerously wounded by another African American; worked on Mr. Allen McKENZIE's farm in the Brazos bottom. Galveston Daily News, 22 December 1893, p.2, col.3

Millican, Tex., April 22 – Last night at White's Switch, six miles south of here, Ben Dixon and Sandy Pierce became involved in a difficulty just after leaving church. Dixon walked up to Pierce and asked him if he did not believe he would shoot him. He said no, and Dixon pulled his 41 and shot him four times, once in the heart, killing him instantly. After emptying his pistol he came direct to Millican and gave up to Constable Franklin and was carried to jail at Bryan. All parties are colored, and the affair was supposed to originate over a woman. Galveston Daily News, 24 April 1894, page 4, col.5

Millican, Tex., April 28 – Ben Dixon, charged with killing Sandy Pierce last night at White's Switch, an account of which appeared in the columns of The News had an examining trial here to-day, and was remanded to jail without bail. All of the parties charged as accessories were discharged. Galveston Daily News, 29 April 1894, page 8, col.2

Bryan, Tex. ... Ben Dixon is on trial today in the district court for the killing of Sandy Pearce at White Switch several months ago. Galveston Daily News, 18 Sept.1894, page 5, col.3

“Brazos Bottom Killing,” Galveston Daily News, 3 October 1894, p.3, col.5. Bill Jones killed Will Roy, on W.Z. Nabor's place

### **Fatal Shooting in Brazos**

Bryan ... In a difficulty between Bill Jones and Will Roy on W.Z. Nabor's place in the bottom, Roy was shot and killed with a winchester. The dispute arose over the sale of a crop. Both men were colored. Dallas Morning News, 4 Oct.1894, p.1

\*Miss Fowie WILLIAMS, aged about 14, accidentally shot & killed by Matt HEARN; she was picking cotton when she was shot; daughter of Preston WILLIAMS; left a brother; tenant on Miss Frankie Armstrong's place in Brazos bottom. (weekly) Bryan Eagle, 20 December 1894, p.3, col.3.