

Allen, Allen

(c.1829-1893)

By Jerry Long
c.2026



Breckenridge News, Cloverport, KY, Wednesday, 3 May 1893, p.6:

Hardinsburg.

Allen Allen, one of the oldest and most respected colored men in this vicinity, died at his home near here last Friday. Allen was one of the sober, industrious and well-to-do men among his class of people. During the war he belonged to old man Joe Allen, whose name is so well associated with the history of the country. When Allen was given his freedom he went to work, paid for a good farm, reared a large family and leaves considerable property at his death. His career has been such for many years that others of the colored race in this vicinity might justly emulate. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. Sneed of the M. E. Church.

[Note – Allen Allen was buried in the old Hardinsburg Colored Cemetery.]



Hartford Republican, Hartford, KY, Friday, 5 May 1893, p.2:

A Lending Colored Citizen of Breckenridge County Dead.

On Friday evening, April 28, Allen Allen, of color, departed this life. He was 64 years of age. He left 8 children living. He had been married twice. His last wife having died a short time ago. He was a consistent and substantial member of the colored M. E. Church at this place.

As a slave he belonged first to a man named Auslem Watson [sic], by whom he was sold to Isaiah Heston, who, in turn, sold him to Jo. Allen, in whose family he remained until he became a free man. He served as a soldier during the Civil War in the army of the United States, was a pensioner at the time of his death. After the at close of the war he bought a farm near Hardinsburg, upon which the owner had been unable to make a living. By industry and economy he quickly paid for his place, and has been since recognized as one of the best farmers in this community. Politically he was a staunch Republican, having been chosen delegate by his party on several occasions to the various State Conventions.

What influence he had was always exerted in behalf of morality and progress. He was not only considered a leader among his own race, but every one esteemed him as a good citizen and an honest man. The community will feel his loss.

Robin Hood

[Note – Robin Hood penned a column for the Hardinsburg community.]



Slavery Days

Allen Allen during slavery was owned successively by Anselm Watkins (1795-1865), Isiah Heston (1807-1864) and Joseph Allen (1774-1862). In an obituary of Allen Allen published in the Hartford Republican Watkins' surname was misspelled as Watson. Anselm Watkins is listed as a household head in the 1830, 1840 and 1850 censuses of Breckinridge County, KY. The 1840 census reported that Watkins owned 69 enslaved persons. He is not listed as a slave owner in the 1850 and 1860 Breckinridge County slave schedules. Isiah Heston married in Breckinridge County in 1833 and is enumerated there in the 1840, 1850 and 1860 censuses. In the 1850 and 1860 Breckinridge County slave schedules Heston is reported to be the owner of 8 and 7 slaves, respectively. Joe Allen settled in Breckinridge County, KY about the time of its formation in 1799 and appears there in the 1810, 1820, 1830, 1840, 1850 and 1860 federal censuses. He was a lawyer and served as the first county and circuit clerk of Breckinridge County. He held both offices for a period of fifty-eight years. The 1860 Breckinridge County, KY slave schedule records that Joseph Allen held in bondage seven slaves. In the final will of Joseph Allen he refers to four slaves – to his son, Alfred Allen he has already given Cynthia, Louisa & her daughter, Margaret. “As to Old Dinah I request my children not to let her be shoved off among strangers, but kept among them & not permitted to suffer” (Breckinridge County, KY Will Book 1, pp. 291-292). Joe Allen's estate owned Allen Allen upon his emancipation. See article, “Family of Joseph Allen & Margaret Crawford”, by Jerry Long (website West-Central Kentucky History & Genealogy, 2025).



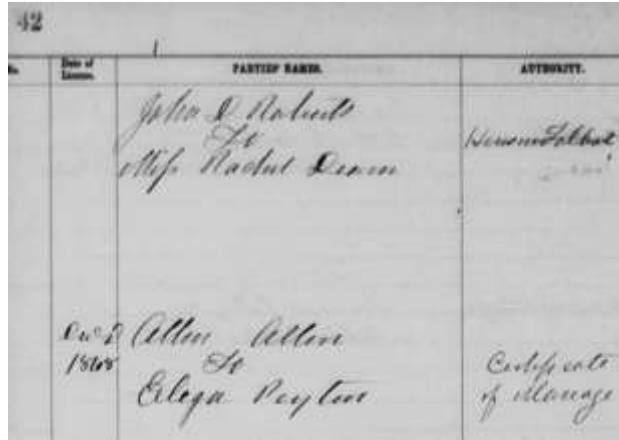
Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Kentucky, 1861-1866, Vol. II. Appendix, p.88:

Allen Allens	
Enlistment Date	1 Oct 1864
Enlistment Place	Owensboro, Kentucky
Enlistment Rank	Sergeant
Muster Date	1 Oct 1864
Muster Company	G
Muster Regiment	U.S. Colored Troops 118th Infantry
Muster Regiment Type	Infantry
Muster Information	Enlisted
Side of War	Union

[Note – age 36 at enlistment]



Breckinridge County, KY Freedman's Marriage Register:



page 42 Allen Allen married Eliza Peyton 2 December 1868
page 128-129 Allen Allen married Matilda Moreland 27 December 1873
(the latter marriage is also recorded in Breckinridge County, KY Colored Marriage Bond Book, 1866-1877, page 369, entered on 30 December 1873)

[Note by J. Long – During slavery, African Americans could not legally marry. Although many slaves had lived as husband and wife, their marriages had no legal status. After Emancipation, freed people wanted to make their marriages legal, and many applied to the state for marriage licenses. In many states after Emancipation any couple who appeared before a Justice of the Peace or Clerk of the Court and stated when they began living together as husband and wife, would be issued a certificate and would be considered lawfully married. Freedmen's Bureau officers worked to make all freedmen in their districts aware of the new rules and of the deadlines for complying with them. In response, tens of thousands of freed couples reported their marriages to county courts and certified their unions.]



Breckinridge County, KY 1867 Colored Tax List:

[1867 is the first Breckinridge County tax list that enumerates colored tithables.]

- Allen, Felix
- Allen, Jerome
- Allen, Allen



Breckinridge County, KY 1870 Federal Census:

Cloverport Precinct, p.53B

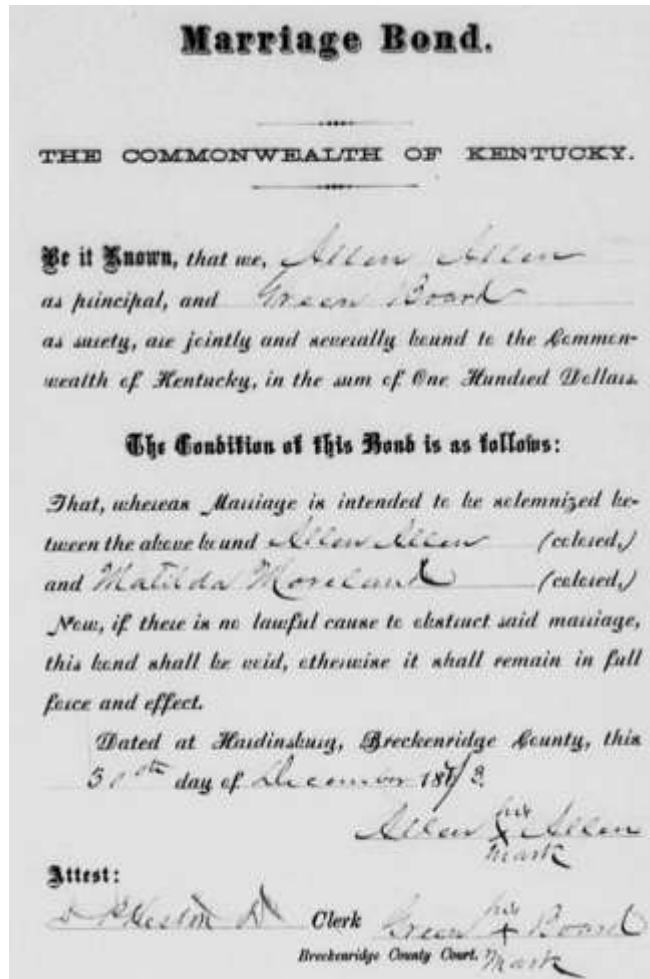
Allen, Allen	41	male	mulatto	farmer	born Ky.
				personal estate value \$100	
“ William	13	male	mulatto	works on farm	born Ky.
“ Henry	11	male	mulatto	works on farm	born Ky.
“ Peter	8	male	mulatto		born Ky.
“ Charlie	6	male	mulatto		born Ky.
“ Eliza	5	female	mulatto		born Ky.
“ Alfred	3	male	mulatto		born Ky.

Hardinsburg Precinct, p.91A

Moorland, Matilda	28	female	black	keeps house	born Ky.
				personal estate value \$500	
“ Dick	9	male	black	works on farm	born Ky.
“ Ganaway	26	male	black	works on farm	born Ky.



Breckinridge County, KY Colored Marriage Bond Book, 1866-1877, p. 369:





Breckinridge County, KY 1874-1878 Vital Statistics:

Female born 14 December 1874; color – black; father – Allen Allen (born Breckinridge County, KY); mother – Matilda Cox (born Breckinridge County, KY).



Breckinridge County, KY 1880 Federal Census:

Hardinsburg District, p.2B

Allen, Allen	51	head	mulatto	farmer	born Ky.
“ Margaret	40	wife	black	keeping house	born Ky.
“ William	22	son	black	works on farm	born Ky.
“ Peter	19	son	black	works on farm	born Ky.
“ Charley	16	son	black	works on farm	born Ky.
“ Eliza	14	dau.	black		born Ky.
“ Alfred	13	son	black	works on farm	born Ky.
“ Mary	6	dau.	black		born Ky.
“ David Joe	4	son	black		born Ky.

[Note – wife of Allen Allen was Matilda, mistakenly entered as Margaret]



Breckenridge News, Cloverport, KY, Wednesday, 25 January 1893, p.2:

Hardinsburg Department.

Mrs. Matilda Allen, wife of Allen Allen, col’d, died at her home near here last week.



Hartford Republican, Hartford, KY, Friday, 3 February 1893, p.2:

Hardinsburg.

Jan. 30 – The colored portion of our community has recently sustained some heavy losses by reason of death. Washington Ganaway, also known as Washington Peyton, an old soldier and thrifty farmer, died Saturday, Dec. 21st, 1892. His sister, Matilda wife of Allen Allen, one of the leading colored men of this county, died Jan. 21st. Sally Tabor, daughter of Jerry Tabor, died Jan. 23rd.



Breckenridge News, Cloverport, KY, Wednesday, 17 May 1893, p.4:

Hardinsburg.

The wills of Allen Allen and Francis Basham were admitted to probate in the County Court last Monday.



Breckinridge County, KY Will Book 1, pp.561-562:

Will of Allen Allen written on 19 April 1893 was probated on 15 May 1893. Left to two children, Jo. Allen and Matilda Allen forty acres off land, same purchased of Ben Miller; give also to Jo. & Matilda \$300, which is to expended equally for their education and maintenance by their guardian and half-brother, Richard Moreland. To son, Henry Allen, he gives \$100 for the operation of my farm. Remainer of my estate is left to his children by his first wife, viz – William Allen, Henry Allen, Peter Allen, Charles Allen, Alfred Allen and Eliza Robards. It is my desire that my children remain on my farm if possible. I appoint as executor of my estate Dr. A. M. Kincheloe. Witnesses – John P. Haswell and Morris Eskridge.



Family of Allen Allen

Allen Allen married twice. He and Eliza Peyton were united about 1857 and certification of their union was made by the Freedman's Bureau in Breckinridge County, KY on 2 December 1868. Eliza Peyton Allen died during 1868-1874; she and Allen Allen had six children:

1. William (c1857-1928); married Annie Guthrie, 28 August 1882 Breckinridge County, KY; buried New Crown Cemetery, Indianapolis, IN. Indiana death certificate 1928 – certificate 19174: William Allen died 10 June 1928 Indianapolis, Marion County, IN; race – colored; marital status – married; wife – Anna Allen; age – 65; born – June 1863 KY; occupation – fireman; cause of death – acute dilation of heart; father – Allen Allen (born KY); mother – Eliza (born KY); informant – Anna Allen.
2. Henry (c1859-1911); married Amelia Wells; 29 May 1879 Breckinridge County, KY; buried Old Hardinsburg Colored Cemetery, Hardinsburg, KY. Kentucky death certificate 1911 – certificate #22674: Henry Allen died 23 September 1911 Hardinsburg Precinct, Breckinridge County, KY; race – Black; marital status – married; age – 53 years 11 months & 8 days; born 15 October 1857 KY; occupation – farming; cause of death – pulmonary tuberculosis; father – Allen Allen (born KY); mother – Eliza Payton (born KY); informant – Amelia Allen; buried 24 September 1911 Hardinsburg Cemetery.

3. Peter (born c1861, died after 1893)
4. Charles (born c1864, died after 1893); married Cornelia Fisher, 20 December 1905 Breckinridge County, KY
5. Eliza (c1865-1952), married Lee Robards, 8 February 1885 Breckinridge County, KY. Indiana death certificate 1952 – certificate 1734: Elizabeth Robards died 24 January 1952 Indianapolis, Marion County, IN; race – colored; marital status – widowed; age – 83 years, 9 months & 7 days; born 17 April 1868 Hardinsburg, Ky.; occupation – house wife; father – Allen Allen; mother – Eliza; informant – Mrs. Cora Lee Brooks; buried New Crown Cemetery, Indianapolis, IN.
6. Alfred (born c1867, died after 1893)

Allen Allen and his second wife, Mrs. Matilda (Cox) Moreland, were married on 27 December 1873 in Breckinridge County, KY. She married first a Moreland and had a son, Richard ‘Dick’ Moreland (born c1861, died after 1893). Matilda was born c1840 KY and died 21 January 1893 Breckinridge County, KY. Matilda and Allen Allen had two children:

1. Matilda (born c1873, died after 1893);
2. David Joe (born c1876, died after 1893)

