

INDEX CARD

Cholera Epidemic

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187

Colored Cemetery
4 Miles East, 3/4 Miles North
Of
Fort Gibson.

About four miles east and 3/4 miles north of Fort Gibson on top of a high hill is a little church. Back of that about 400 feet is a cemetery which is about 250 feet square. The west half is practically full of graves and only room for a very few more, and the east half has but a scattering of graves. Only negroes bury there. An old negro named Clem Vann picked out the spot for this cemetery in the year of 1867. A baby was the first person to be buried, then, two others. However, in July of 1867, an epidemic of cholera broke out among the colored people of that community and many of them died and were buried there.

There are very few monuments bearing inscriptions. However, there are a few granite monuments which are inscribed. Most of the graves are just marked with native sandstone.

Some are as follows:

Mary, wife of Berry Mayse, Died Nov. 10, 1887.
(Age or date of birth not given)

Andy Lasley, Born 1855, Died 1896.
"Dead and gone but not forgotten"

Crosby Bean, Born 1802; Died 1908
(At the top of this stone is an oval
about 4" x 6" and in this oval is a
portrait of the old colored lady).

Martha, wife of David Bell, Born
Jan. 15, 1844, Died Aug. 15, 1882.
"Blessed are the pure in heart
for they shall see God".

Angeline Wilson, Born May 27, 1830
Died Nov. 8, 1884.
Aged 54 years, 5 mos. 11 days.

Allen Wilson, Died May 19, 1888
Aged about 70 years.

Liney, wife of C. Riley, Died May 9, 1893,
Age 43 years.

Rhoda, wife of Joseph Ross,
Died Oct. 12, 1893,
Age 27 years.