

Lydia Shelby Bennett 1800-1892

Lydia A. Bennett (d Jan 4 1892) (Indiana Berry's Aunt)

Lydia A Bennett was born near Maysville, Mason Co, Kentucky in the year 1800. With her parents she moved to Union Co, Ind in 1816, and was married to William H Bennett, who afterward became prominent in State and local affairs, serving as legislator and president of the State Board of Agriculture. Although struggling with poverty as many early pioneers, she never became unmindful of the poor and needy, and all through life was ever ready to aid them in their distress, and many were her donations to the church, for she was ever noted for her open-hearted generosity. Even in those early days when building churches by subscription was a very difficult task, her name was always found on the list as a cheerful and liberal giver. Her husband died Jan 29, 1864. No children were born of this marriage, but she became the mother of nine orphan children, all of whom survive her. These children she raised up to a Christian life, and was a mother to them in every way the dear word of "mother" implies, and all of them attest her motherly and noble traits of character, as few women have ever taken the motherly care and devotional interest in so many orphan children and brought them up into man- and womanhood with such a high degree of success. She moved to Richmond, Ind in 1871, where she resided until her death, which took place Jan 4, 1892, aged 92 years, 7 months, 9 days. She united with the M.E. Church Sept 5, 1841 and was baptized Aug 17, 1842, and was a faithful member and untiring worker in the cause of Christianity until overcome by the infirmities of age.