

Hullum Family History Part 1 – Faithful Work

This month's family history is about the Hullum family (sometimes spelt Hullm) which might sound familiar because a few members of the Hullum family appeared in the last family history for the Powell family. The Hullum family history begins with Jasper Hullum and his wife Marie Stewart. I was unable to find information for Marie Stewart but, according to an article from the *Amherstburg Echo* from March 31, 1899, Jasper fundraised for the church. The article says "To all whom it may concern – This will certify that Jasper Hullum is legally authorized to collect money for the A.M.E. church at New Canaan. By order of Trustees. Wm. F. Townsend, Pastor."

According to Jasper's obituary which was printed in the *Amherstburg Echo* on January 1, 1904, "One of the best known colored men in this county was killed in the Pare Marquette train wreck near Grand Rapids, last Friday night. We refer to Jasper Hullum. Mr. Hullum was best known as a canvasser for church enterprises, and as such had travelled not only in every part of this but adjoining counties. He was born in North Carolina in 1844, and came to this township when a boy. He was raised by an old gentleman named Anthony, and after reaching manhood married Mary Stewart. They had seven children, four sons and three daughters who reside as follows: Alzora, Mrs. James Banks, Windsor; Mrs. Nathan S. Powell, Colchester South; Mrs. M. Galloway, Detroit; William, Darius and Herman, Detroit and Gordon, Colchester South. The deceased and his wife moved to Windsor several years ago and there he identified himself with the work of the A.M.E. church. At the time of his death he was soliciting funds for the Victoria Red Cross Hospital, to be erected in Windsor. The remains were brought here Wednesday morning over the L.E. & D.R.R. and taken to Central Grove for interment. Rev. Mr. Davis, of Windsor, officiated. Quite a large crowd of former friends turned out and followed the remains

to their last resting place. The pallbearers were Anthony Banks, Henry Harris, R.M. Dennis, John Brown, Marion Banks, and Elijah Pines.” The train wreck mentioned in Jasper’s obituary occurred on December 26, 1903 in Kent County, Michigan, and Jasper was one of 22 people who died in this accident, while 40 others were injured. According to *Family Search*, the wreck was caused by a westbound stop signal that was blown out by strong winds. Staff tried to alert a nearby farmer, likely to restore the signal, but they were not able to prevent the train wreck. Sadly, a separate article from the *Amherstburg Echo*, from January 1, 1904, reported “Ghouls robbed the body of the late Jasper Hullum of \$15, while it was lying after the wreck on, the Pero Marquette.”

What we publish is not a complete history of any family and is based on the documents that are available. We welcome photos and information to fill in the gaps. See you next week for part 2.