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Henry Charles Jefferson, Pioneer of Cheyenne, Dies

CHEYENNE. — Henry Charles Jefferson, a resident of this city for more than 50 years, died here on Thursday evening, June 27, after a long illness.

Funeral services were held at the Allen Chapel A. M. E. church Sunday afternoon, June 30, the Rev. H. L. Bingham, pastor of Campbell's church at Denver, officiating. It was one of the largest funerals for a Negro ever held here.

Mr. Jefferson was the "father" of Allen Chapel, having been the oldest member of the church. William Ashford, next oldest member, gave a eulogy.

Many Attend Funeral

Persons from out of town who attended the funeral were Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Gaskin, Mr. and Mrs. E. V. Campbell, Mrs. Fanny Allen, William Robinson, all of Denver, and Miss Leontine Houston of Albuquerque.

Born in Platte county, Mo., on August 15, 1856, Mr. Jefferson came here in the early '80's. In 1885, he was instrumental in the erection of the Allen Chapel building. He was the last surviving member of the board of trustees under whose management the building was erected.

Mr. Jefferson also helped organize the Masonic lodge at Atchison, Kas., in the early days and was a member of Morning Star lodge No. 4, A. F. and A. M.

Mr. Jefferson is survived by his widow; a daughter, Mrs. Lillian Smith; two grandchildren, Gwendolyn and Ruby Smith; a nephew, William Bolden Townsend and a half brother, William Berry of Leavenworth.

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