Bartholomew County, Name Index to the Account Book of
David McClure Branham’s General Store, 1893–1897

Lori Osting and Callie McCune

David McClure Branham was born in North Madison on June 5, 1860, the son of William Hickman Branham and Livia K. Branham. In 1879 the family moved to Elizabethtown in Sand Creek Township, Bartholomew County, nine miles southeast of Columbus.¹ Primarily a small farming community, Elizabethtown developed along the tracks of the Madison and Indianapolis Railroad in 1845.² Here, Branham became a clerk at the store of Edward Springer and Sons in 1880, later owning the business. He married Nettie A. Springer, daughter of Edward and Nancy Springer, on May 10, 1881.³

Branham continued to operate the general store in Elizabethtown and work as a farmer until his sudden death on January 9, 1931.⁴ The manuscript collections of the Indiana State Library include twenty volumes of his account books, spanning the years 1893–1929.⁵ The first volume, which is indexed for this article, covers the years 1893–97 and contains the names of 297 customers. Items commonly purchased during this period included hardware and farm supplies, such as sickles, oil, oil cans, twine, canvas, tension springs, sisal, wool, whips, ducking, cold chisels, sway bars, nails, hay carriers, rivets, and knives.⁶

Branham roughly indexed his customers’ names at the beginning of the account book. Often, though, the name given on the account page is more complete and easier to read than the name in the front of the book. For this index, the most complete version of the name is used. Account entries include the date, item(s) purchased, and amount paid.

Notes
3. “D. M. Branham, Elizabethtown, Dies Suddenly.”
4. “D. M. Branham, Elizabethtown, Dies Suddenly.” Branham was listed as a merchant in the 1910 and 1930 U.S. census and as a farmer in 1920. See 1910 U.S. census, population schedule, Bartholomew County, Indiana, Sand Creek Township, Elizabethtown, ED 24, sheet 1B, dwelling 29, family 29, David M. Branham household; digital image, Ancestry.com; citing NARA microfilm publication T624, roll 340; also 1920 U.S. census, population schedule, Bartholomew County, Indiana, Sand Creek Township, Elizabethtown, ED 20, sheet 3A, dwelling 60, family 60, David M. Branham household; digital image, Ancestry.com; citing NARA microfilm publication T625, roll 422; also 1930 U.S. census, population schedule, Bartholomew County, Indiana, Sand Creek Township, Elizabethtown, ED 23, sheet 1B, dwelling 32, family 32, David M. Branham household; digital image, Ancestry.com; citing NARA microfilm publication T626, roll 577).


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**Name Index to David McClure Branham Account Book, 1893–1897**

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* Listed in the account book twice.
† Spurgeon, Lon appears in the index, but the name on the account page is Spurgeon, A. B.
Also, if your intent is to showcase Black-owned independent stores, please note AALBC.com is an online bookseller. AALBC is the oldest, largest, and most frequently visited web-based bookseller focused on Black books. 132 Black Owned Bookstores Found (sorted by state, city, name). 1. Pyramid Art Books & Custom Framing 1001 Wright Avenue, Suite C Little Rock, AR 72206 Owner/Proprietor: Phone: 501-372-5824 Email: pyramidartbookscustomframing@gmail.com Opened in: 1988 Last updated: 2014-03-19
2. West County READS Multicultural Children’s Book Store 2325 Hilltop Mall Drive Richmond, CA 94806 Owner/Proprietor: Phone: (510) 422-5304 Email: Opened in: 2017 Last updated: 2018-04-25 Bartholomew County White Pages Directory and People Search. Bartholomew County, IN White Pages directory assistance (people search - 411) just got a lot more "direct." Even with just partial information (like a name, but no town), we can fill in the blanks with the rest to find the local phone number from our Bartholomew County white page directory. Why pay high fees to get the IN white pages directory listings when you can find use Bartholomew County people search to find all the phone numbers and directory assistance (411) at the Bartholomew County IN community website on AmericanT. In the synoptic gospels Philip and Bartholomew are always mentioned together, while Nathanael is never mentioned; in the fourth gospel, on the other hand, Philip and Nathanael are similarly mentioned together, but nothing is said of Bartholomew. He was one of the disciples to whom our Lord appeared at the Sea of Tiberias after his resurrection (John 21:2). He was also a witness of the Ascension (Acts 1:4, 12, 13). He was an “Israelite indeed” (John 1:47). There is no further reference to him in the New Testament. According to the “Genealogies of the Twelve Apostles” (Budge, Contendings of the Apostles, II, 50) “Bartholomew was of the house of Naphtali. Now his name was formerly John, but our Lord changed it because of John the son of Zebedee, His beloved.”