

2019

0856: Bible of Mrs. Isabella W. Hite, 1857

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Bible of Mrs. Isabella W. Hite 1857

Accession Number: 2019/07.0856

Processed By: Amanda Shaver

Date Completed: July 22, 2019

Location: Special Collections Department, Morrow Library

Corporate Name: N/A

Date: 1857

Extent: 0.25 cubic feet

System of Arrangement: N/A

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

The name written on the bible, Isabella W. Hite, and later Isa. H. Moore, appears to refer to the daughter of Jacob Hite, a settler who moved to the Huntington area in 1808 and resided on the Savage Grant, located between Guyandotte and Barboursville. Jacob was the son of John Hite of Rockingham County, VA and grandson of Jost Hite of Frederick, an early explorer of the lower valley of the Shenandoah. Isabella Hite Moore lived in Huntington, and was referenced in a 1901 article about the area published in *The West Virginia Historical Magazine Quarterly*. The magazine stated she was about 80 years old and was “hale and hearty, and a typical Hite of the old school, with light hair, fair complexion, and blue eyes” and that she “rejoice[d] that she [was] a descendant of the ‘Old Baron Yost Hite,’ the German settled of the Valley of Virginia.”¹

SCOPE AND CONTENT OF COLLECTION

This collection consists of a single bible. Published by E. Stevenson & F. A. Owen, Agents, for the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in 1856, the title page states it is the English Version of the Polyglott Bible. The book itself contains fold-out maps and illustrations. On the first page is written “Mrs. Isabella W. Hite Cabel Co. Va. Feb 24th 1857” and then in a different ink/pencil, “Isa. H. Moore.” Throughout the book, passages are marked and near them, a name and date are written in the margins. Many of the days (not all were checked) appear to have

¹ W. S. Laidley, “The West End of West Virginia” *The West Virginia Historical Magazine Quarterly* 1, no. 4 (October, 1901): 24.

fallen on a Sunday, and so the names may refer to a reverend, and the passage to the subject of his sermon. Names include B. F. Gosling, Black, Hampton, and Preston, while the dates are mainly in the 1880s and 1890s.

Box 1: Polyglott Bible