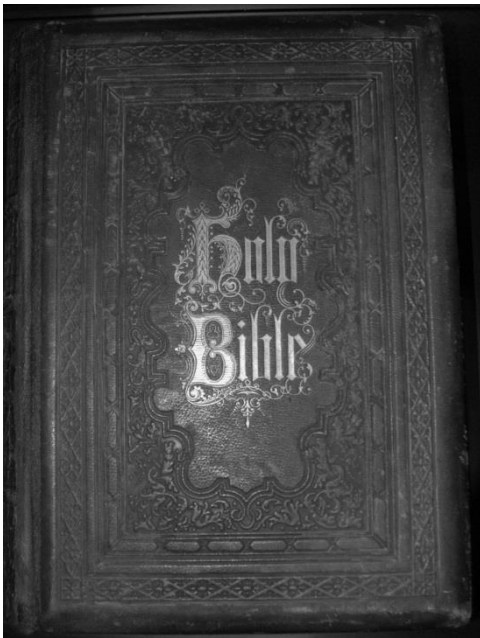


Molock Bible (1867)

Rebecca Shaw

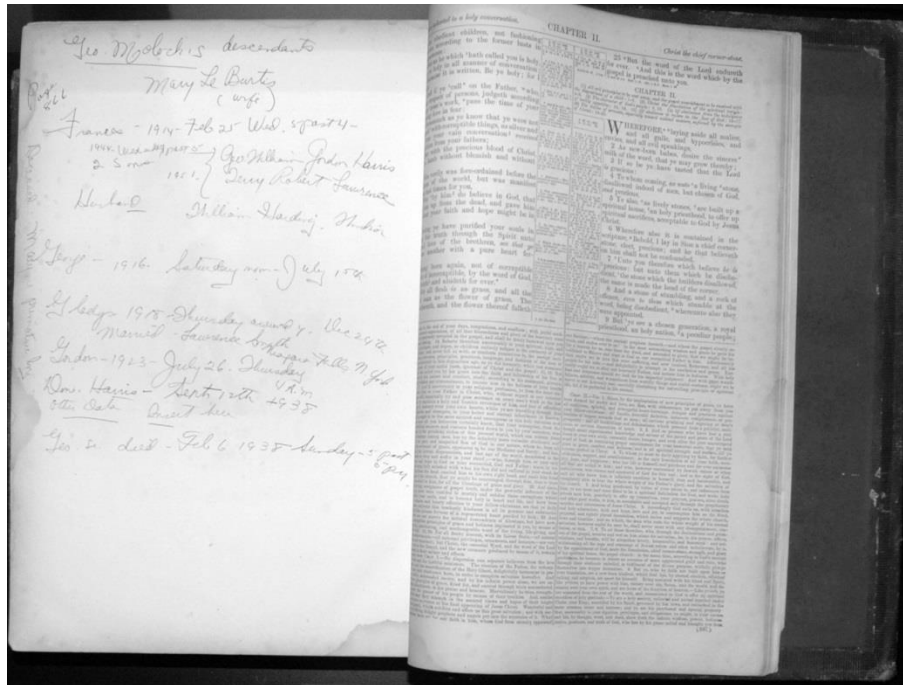


Exterior of the Molock Bible



Lisa McAllister during a "Show and Tell" presentation about the Molock Family at the Grey County Black History Event at Grey Roots Museum & Archives on April 12, 2014.

The Molock Bible (1867) is an heirloom belonging to Lisa McAllister, the great-great-granddaughter of an escaped slave, Francis Ebenezer Molock (1836 – 1910). After travelling the Underground Railway, Francis arrived in Owen Sound c. 1856 where he was a local preacher in the early days of the British Methodist Episcopal Church. In the 1870s, he built a home with his wife, Mary, on 242 11th Street West, which is now part of the Freedom Trail. The family listed on page 997 of this Bible is that of George Molock, one of Francis and Mary's sons.



Interior of the Molock Bible, page 997, listing George Molock's family

George worked as a cook, first for the Northern Navigation Co. based out of Owen Sound, and then at the Paterson Hotel on 2nd Avenue East. He inherited the family home on 11th Street in 1921, where he lived with his wife, Mary LeBurtis, and their children. His eldest daughter, Frances (1914 – 2006), later lived there with her husband, William Harding, a descendent of Josiah Henson (on whom *Uncle Tom's Cabin* by Harriet Beecher Stowe is based). Frances was the Director of Music at the British Methodist Episcopal Church for more than 25 years, and was the founder of the Sea Island Merry Makers, a dance band from Owen Sound in the twentieth century. She had two sons, George and Terry.¹

¹ For more information on the Molock family, also see “Frances (Molock) Harding” by Ruth Cathcart which begins on page 23 of Volume 5 of the *Northern Terminus Journal*; “Owen Sound B.M.E. Church Monument to Pioneers’ Faith Altar of Present Coloured Folk” by Dorothea Deans which begins on page 27 of Volume 7 of the *Northern Terminus Journal*; and, Charles Molock’s obituary on page 26 of the *Northern Terminus Journal*. Charles was one of George and Mary (LeBurtis) Molock’s sons.