

'BLACK PATTI, ONCE FAMOUS STAGE STAR, DIES: BLACK PATTI ONCE FAMOUS ...

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'BLACK PATTI,' ONCE FAMOUS STAGE STAR, DIES

Curtain

BLACK PATTI, ONCE FAMOUS SINGER, DIES

Was Celebrated Star
30 Years Ago

PROVIDENCE, R. I., June 30.—Sissieretta Jones is dead! The internationally famous "Black Patti" passed away early Saturday morning at her home here, where she had lived in retirement for nearly a quarter of a century.

The artist was well along in years and might even have been an octogenarian. She is almost beyond the memory of present-day music lovers, but the record shows that she was considered one of the greatest singers of all time. The home in which she spent her declining years was somewhat of a shrine for music lovers. There she kept alive the memories and the mementoes of her days of fame.

Was Great Concert Singer

Early in her theatrical career, "Black Patti" and her famous "Black Patti" Troubadours swept the country and all Europe. She was indeed the greatest concert singer of the Ameri-

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BLACK PATTI

An early picture of Black Patti, noted stage star of 30 years ago, who died Saturday in Providence, R. I. A death notice in the Providence Journal listed her as Matilda Sissieretta Joyner.

'BLACK' PATTI, NOTED SINGER, DIES IN EAST

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can stage. Her Troubadours consisted of more than 100 people and it was declared even in that day that her aggregation was a show of stars which made her shine out more brilliant in such a galaxy. With her were Ernest Hogan, John Rucker, Jolly John Larkin, now famous in the talkies, and Stella Wiley, and a host of others who were even then famous performers in their own right. Her show was billed as "the greatest singing aggregation in the world."

"Black Patti" was in her glory in the '80s, late '90s, and retired at the beginning of the 20th century. Keen rivalry existed between "Patti" and Madam Flower, but at no time was her domain threatened as the greatest single attraction in all the world. Madam Flower was considered a great contralto soloist.

Had Many Jewels

In her Providence home gifts, including precious jewels, which were given to her by the crowned heads of Europe, she has kept these many years.

Several times during the course of the years it was rumored that "Black Patti" had passed on. But always these reports were unfounded and were denied by the great artist herself until today she gave up to the advance of years.

At one time during her brilliant career, "Black Patti" married her promoter and manager, and through this union she sang the American concert stage and the capitals of the old world.

Black Patti was evidently married again in recent years as death notices list her name as "Matilda Sisserietta Joyner" and residence at 7 Wheaton St. Funeral services were held Tuesday at Congdon St. Baptist church. Only immediate friends and relatives were present. She was nearing her 80th birthday.