

## PASSING OF M. C. JAMES.

Meredith C. James, son of Mahlon and Rachel James, was born in Rosehill, Louden county, Virginia, Jan. 28, 1849, and his early boyhood was spent amid the stirring scenes of the civil war, and what a boyhood, with struggle and strife hedging him about on every side. About 1865 he came to this vicinity to make his home. He helped to build the Vandalia railroad and for a time was brakeman for the C. & A..

On January 9, 1874, he was married to Florence A. Buck, and four children were born to them: Mrs. Carrie Fletcher, of Heyworth; Mrs. Nellie Baker, deceased; Mrs. Pearl Matthews, deceased; and Mrs. Birdie Dye, of McLean. Besides the wife and two daughters, he is survived by five grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, and four sisters: Mrs. Jennie Simpson, of Frederick City, Maryland; Mrs. Kate Streams, of Newark, Ohio; Mrs. Sarah James, of Waterford, Va.; and Mrs. Mary Bruny, of Congerville, Ill.

"Dock," as we all knew him, has spent over a half century in this neighborhood and was a familiar citizen in our midst. His was an active life; a hard worker and tireless in his efforts to do things right, and many a harvest has yielded its golden grain to the magic of his touch for he was a thorough and efficient machine man. He accepted the responsibilities of citizenship and has served the community in many ways. He was strong and true in his friendships, fearless and outspoken in his manner, hypocrisy and deceit were unknown to him, for where and what he stood for was always known. He was of rugged constitution, and up to about six months ago maintained an active interest in the affairs of life, but, like the mighty oak that has withstood the onward rush of many storms, had at last to bow his strength to Nature's will, and return to Mother Earth, where, in that sleep of peace he will find a well earned rest.

He died at the Mennonite hospital in Bloomington, at 5:30 p. m., Thursday, July 14, 1921, and was 72 years, 5 months and 16 days of age.

Mr. James was a member of the Masonic lodge. He was a frequent attendant at the Methodist church, and for many years sang in the choir. Near the end of his life he renewed his former covenant with God and desired earnestly to be at peace with all men.

The funeral was held Saturday afternoon from the Methodist church, with Rev. Thrall in charge. The favorite hymns of the deceased were sung by Mrs. Cecil Tavenner and Mrs. Fred Leach. The pallbearers were S. B. VanNess, N. L. Kinsey, Noah Gard, Frank Kinsey, Dr. L. N. Morin and H. H. Tompkins. Interment was in Mt. Hope cemetery.