

Death of Joseph Pembroke Wood

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many of the reckless and abandoned outlaws, who had congregated at the Dubuque Mines, began to leave for sunnier climes. The gleam of the Bowie knife was no longer seen in the nightly brawls of the street, nor dripped upon the sidewalk the gore of man; but the people began to feel more secure in the enjoyment of life and property.

DEATH OF JOSEPH PEMBROKE WOOD.

It becomes our painful duty now to chronicle the decease of one who has long been intimately connected with our State Historical Society, as an interested, active member, and a faithful, efficient officer, (Treasurer.) The sad event took place on the 9th of September, the result of a complication of disorders from which he had suffered for several months previous.

The subject of this brief notice was born in Hartford, Washington County, N. Y., in the year 1817, and was about 48 years old at the period of his death. His father was a Baptist clergyman who labored in the duties of his sacred calling to an advanced age, and only recently preceded his son to the rest and reward which remain for the faithful on high. The family removed to Eastern Ohio when Joseph was a child. Since the 8th year of his age, he has relied chiefly on his own exertions for a support, thus developing that self-reliant character which distinguished him through life.

Notwithstanding the disadvantages of his position, he found time and means for the cultivation of his mind, securing an education that qualified him for the occupation of teacher, which post of usefulness he successfully filled for a number of years, as the preceptor of a flourishing High School in Cadiz, Ohio.

His fate, however, or, at least his tendencies, lay in another

or direction, and he is best known as a *man of business*. For such pursuits his active, intense temperament, his quick, keen, eager intellect, gave him peculiar adaptation.

About 11 years ago he removed with his family to Iowa City, where he has been widely known as one of its most prominent, public spirited citizens, as well as a genial companion and faithful friend in all the relations of social life. There will be many ready to bear their testimony to the justness of the tribute paid to his memory by the editor of the *Iowa City Republican* in a late issue of that paper. He says: "We became acquainted with him on our first residence here, nearly ten years ago, and have been intimate with him ever since. We have always found him a generous, live, earnest, christian gentleman, ever ready to help any worthy object with effort or money. He has done more for the poor of this city than any other man in it, since we have been here, it not in money given directly, in efforts that have brought relief."

Any sketch of our departed friend would be incomplete that would fail of recognizing his *patriotism*. He was true to his country in the recent fearful trial through which she past, not only in profession of devotion to her cause, but in making sacrifices to maintain it. His oldest son was a member of the 22d Iowa regiment, and had returned, after serving his full time, only a short time before the death of his father.

Blessed with devoted christian parents, and faithful religious training, his susceptible heart early yielded to such influences, and while yet a youth he made a profession of religion, to which he unswervingly adhered to the end. His connection was with the O. S. Presbyterian denomination. In the church of Cadiz Ohio, of which he was long a member, he was elected and ordained to the office of ruling elder, and, as such, during most of his residence in Iowa City, he was closely identified with the interests, the work and the eventful history of the North Presbyterian Church.

The consolations of the gospel soothed him through the wearisome sickness that preceded his departure, and fully sustained him in the final conflict with the king of terrors.

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