

Obituary.

Thomas W. Evans (commonly known as "Whig") died at his home in New Douglas Mar. 21, 1898, after a lingering illness. He was born Mar. 8, 1836, and was raised in Montgomery county. He was the eldest son of John E. and Anna Evans, who moved here from Tennessee in 1826 and settled about 2½ miles west of this city. Their house was the home of the Methodist itinerant and many other preachers who remember their hospitality.

The deceased was married to Miss Emma Falls, and to this union four children were born, three daughters and one son, viz: Mrs. D. W. Landley of California, Mrs. Thos. Alsop and Mrs. R. B. Kirkland of New Douglas, and John C., who preceded his father to the unknown world last fall. In 1863 during the darkest days of the Rebellion he left his home in charge of his brother-in-law, F. W. Sigley, and enlisted in Co. G, 150th Ill., and served his country faithfully until the close of the war, when he returned home and continued farming until a short time prior to his demise, when he moved to New Douglas, and by his early frugality, assisted by his devoted companion, he succeeded in providing a comfortable home for his family.

During a campmeeting that was being held at the old Morris Chapel campground in 1883, he was converted and joined the M. E. Church soon after, living a faithful, consistent Christian life until his demise. He was a man of strict integrity and all had confidence in his religious professions. His last days were of great suffering, but through it all he was patient, and when he realized that he could not recover his greatest desire was to depart and be at rest, and by his death the church loses a valuable member and the community an esteemed citizen. He is survived by his wife, three daughters, four brothers, a sister and many friends and relatives who deeply mourn his demise.

The funeral services were preached by Rev. J. A. Hampton, of Shipman, assisted by Revs. McReaken of Litchfield and Crowder of New Douglas. The pall bearers were John Valentine, Peter Orten and Thos. Isaacs of New Douglas, George Harn of Durley, Rev. Jos. McReaken of Litchfield, and Jacob Lindley of Sorento. The interment took place at the Kirkland cemetery and was witnessed by a large concourse of sympathizing friends.

J. L. Sigley,
White Oak, Ill.

Corrected
Ill
Blade
April 7th 1898

Brother T. W. Evans was born March 8th 1836, in Montgomery County, Ill., and departed this life March 21st, 1898, being at the time of his death 63 years and 18 days old. He was joined in holy wedlock May 10, 1860, to Miss Emma Falls, who has been a true and consistent companion all these years that has passed. Besides his companion, Brother Evans leaves three children to mourn the loss of a kind and loving father. A few months ago his only son John Evans, departed this life to soon be followed by his father, who said a few days before his death that he would soon be with Johnnie.

Brother Evans was converted and joined the M. E. Church in the fall of 1885 during a camp meeting held on what is known as Robb's Mound. On February 18th, 1897 he received the blessing of entire sanctification or holiness; an experience that he really lived and enjoyed and of which he was never ashamed to proclaim to the church and the world that "Christ had power to save to the uttermost, all that put their trust in him!" The writer of this wishes to state that the doctrine of scripture holiness could not be impeached by reference to the life of brother Evans. So positive was he in regard to this experience in the Christian life that he wrote down in his own hand writing the date he received this blessing. During his illness of five weeks duration he bore his sufferings with a spirit of christian submission and was perfectly resigned to the will of his Heavenly Master, often saying "The Will of the Lord be done." His was a blessed experience in Christ's Love. Even up to the last hour of his life he would say, "O, Glory! praise the Lord!" and such like expressions, characteristic of a devoted christian. Some time previous to his death he chose the text of scripture that he wished his funeral to be preached from, viz "I will bless the Lord at all times. His praise shall continually be in my mouth." Psalms 34-1. The evening before his death he asked the friends around his bedside to sing "Savior Wash Me in the Blood." During the singing he would smile and say "Praise the Lord."

Brother Evans heard the call of his country in the dark days of the rebellion and enlisted in Co. G, 150, Ill., Volunteers. He was corporal in the company and done faithful service.

In the death of brother Evans the church has suffered an irreparable loss, the wife a devoted husband and the children a kind and loving father. The bereaved family have the sympathy of the entire community.

WRITTEN BY A FRIEND.

New Douglas
"Blade"
April 1st Ills
1898