

Obituary

James Oates was born in Halifax Yorkshire England Jan. 5th, 1836. Died Wednesday March 17th at 1:30 o'clock at his home in Cincinnati Ark. at the age of 73 years 2 months and 12 days. He was the son of John and Rachel (Armitage) Oates both also natives of Halifax England where nine generation are buried in one grave-yard, both parents died in England, members of the Methodist church, where James was baptized in that faith when a babe.

The family consisted of 14 children 7 sons and 7 daughters; he, James being the last one of the 14 to pass away. James Oates received very little education owing to the fact he left home at an early age, remaining on the sea for several years, came to the United States in 1852. He was in the Government employ at Key West, Fla., and there mounted the first gun at that fort. In 1860 he went to Honduras, central America with Gen. Walker and was with him until the close of his campaign. He assisted in storming Truxilla and was captured when Gen. Walker surrendred and held prisoner for several weeks. In April '61 he enlisted in company. G 7 Ill. Volunteer Infantry and served 3 months, then enlisted in Com. K. 9th Ill. Infantry. In December '61 he was commissioned 2nd lieutenant in June '62 was promoted to 1st lieutenant, and at the close was raised to the rank of Capt. He participated in the battles of Shiloh, Corinth, Resaca, Peach Tree Creek, Ft. Donelson, Nashville and others. During his services he was in 67 engagements, at Ft. Donelson he was wounded by four balls, three taking effect in his left shoulder and breast that, being the side effected by paralysis at the time of his death. He was discharged at Springfield, Ill. in '64 and received a pension as partial compensation.

In his wanderings he learned blacksmith and wagon making and was a superior machinist and workman and opened a large shop at Sedalia, Mo. At that place he met his first wife, Miss Ellen Severs, a native of Wash. Co., Ark., and daughter of Chas. Severs and niece of Fred Severs of Okla. He married her in '63; one child "Ruth" was born to this union, and with the young 19 year old mother died in '67.

In '68 he moved to Cincinnati and started a wagon factory which he carried on until '85, when he gave up heavy labor and went into the hardware store with his brother-in-law, known as the firm of Oates and Spence, which he sold to a man in Stilwell, Okla., after the death of Mr. Spence, eight years ago.

In '72 he was married to his present wife Jennie Spence Maurice of St. Louis Mo., a native of Rochester N. York, who is left to mourn his loss after 36 years of devoted married life together. There were no children of this union. In '86 Mr. Gates was the Republican nominee for representative of Wash. Co. to the State Legislature, in '88 he was Chairman of the Republican Mass Convention. He was a member of the G. A. R. Post at Siloam Springs Ark. He also had a life membership in the Army of the Tennessee.

He has lived here in this part of the County for 41 years and no other man was wider or more favorably known. Through his generosity and enterprising spirit he was at the head of every social and up-building movement, in his youngest days, and no one was ever known to be turned away who needed help or encouragement in what was good, honorable or progressive. He was the friend of the widow and fatherless and always gave freely to the Church and School.

About the 16th of Feb. he was taken ill very suddenly with heart trouble, not being able to lie down day or night. Seemingly he got very much better and was able to walk up in town a little while two days, but Friday night the 12th of March, about 11 o'clock, he was stricken with paralysis while asleep. On Sunday night before he died he asked his wife to get the bible and read "Christ's Sermon on the Mt.," also the 13th Chapter of 1st Corinthians, repeating part of it from memory. Though conscious all the time, he continued to grow worse until death struck him and he died Wednesday 17th at 1:30 p. m.

Funeral services were conducted at the Church by Rev. Edwards, the M. E. minister, on Thursday at 2. p. m. Enternment at Union Cemetery.

(HIS NIECE)

Oh how we loved him, he was so good and kind, no one will ever know how we miss him, Good by but not farewell for ever.

Card of Thanks

We the undersigned wish to express our sincere thanks to the many kind friends who assisted us so ably and rendered such kind service in the sickness and death of our beloved husband and uncle.

MRS. JAMES OATES.

DR. AND MRS. J. GULLEDGE.

MR. AND MRS. C. GILBREATH.

Pure White Wyandotte Eggs, 50c per setting. J. F. BLACK.

1 1-4 mile northwest of Westville, Okla.