

Mrs. M. V. Easterday.

Mrs. M. V. Easterday, well known to the readers of this paper, died at her home in Steilacoom, Wash., Wednesday, Dec. 9, 1908, at 5:00 o'clock, p. m. She had been sick for about eight weeks, suffering with pneumonia and this disease, augmented with apoplexy, caused her death. Her age was seventy-six years, five months and ten days.

Margaret J. Huston, daughter of John and Isabella (Draw) Huston, was born near Stubenville, Jefferson county, Ohio, on the 29th day of June, 1832. She lived with her parents until September 2, 1852, when she was married to Mr. Easterday. Soon after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Easterday moved to Nokomis, Montgomery county, Ills., and purchased a farm. There they continued to reside for seventeen years. This was the place of the birth of their children. In the year 1871 the Easterday family came to Tecumseh and for ten years they lived in the residence property now owned by John Kavanagh on First street. In 1877 Mr. Easterday was elected county treasurer and he served two terms. Then they located on the farm, north of the city, where they continued to reside until 1892, when they gave up the active duties incidental to this work and moved back to Tecumseh. In 1899 Mr. and Mrs. Easterday left Nebraska and located at Sumner, Wash., and a little later they went to Steilacoom, both these towns being near Tacoma. Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Easterday, three dying in infancy. A son, Horace, died at Sumner, in 1889. The husband, now eighty-six years of age and in poor health, and the four sons survive the deceased. The sons are: Charles Milton, of Tacoma, Wash., a well known attorney, former state senator and judge-elect of the superior court; Stephen A., a prominent business man of Drain, Ore.; Joseph H., a leading attorney of Tacoma and former state tax commissioner; and Philip S., a prominent bridge contractor and wholesale lumber dealer of Fairbury, Neb. The father and sons were at the bedside of the beloved wife and mother when the end came, Phil having been summoned from Nebraska and reaching there a few days before.

Mrs. Easterday was a remarkable woman. She was kind, lovable and possessed the many beautiful traits of true womanhood. No one was more willing to aid the suffering, cheer the despondent, sustain the weak and to throw over the frailties of our race the mantle of christian charity than she. For years she went among the sick and suffering in this community and administered to their wants. As a wife she was devoted and in every way helpful; as a mother she was loving and indulgent, as a neighbor she was exceedingly interested and kind. For many years Mrs. Easterday was a member of the Universalist church, and her every-day life was strictly in accordance with the teaching of the Master. She died firm in the belief of an everlasting life and she hoped to meet the members of her family in the grand reunion of eternity, in the home that shall never be broken.

Brief services were held at the Easterday home in Steilacoom Thursday morning at 11:00 o'clock, and that afternoon at 3:00 the son, Phil Easterday, departed for Tecumseh with the remains of his mother. The husband was not able to make the long trip. At Lincoln, Sunday, Mrs. Easterday joined her husband and came to this city. The remains were taken to the home of J. S. Arnup, where, on Monday morning at 10:30 o'clock, the funeral was held. The attendance was large and the floral offerings especially numerous and beautiful. The sermon, a splendid effort, was by Rev. Robert Liddell, D. D., pastor of the local Presbyterian church. Among those from out of the city to be in attendance at the obsequies were James Huston, a brother of the deceased, and his son, Robert Huston, of Cheney; Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Easterday, L. F. M. Easterday and Mrs. Anna E. Mundy, nephews and niece, of Lincoln; and W. B. Raper and son, Judge J. B. Raper of Pawnee City. The burial was in the family lot in the Tecumseh cemetery.

The Tecumseh Chieftain, Johnson co., NE
December 19, 1908