

Missouri Statesman

22 Oct 1891

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Death of Dr. J. W. Banks.

After a comparatively short illness of disease of the liver Dr. J. W. Banks died at his home in this place on Wednesday night Oct. 14, 1891, in the 89th year of his age.

He was born in Sumner county, Tenn., Dec. 25, 1802. During the next year his father removed to Tebo Grove, Lafayette county, Mo., at which place the deceased was reared. He was educated at Dr. John L. Yantis' Institute at Sweet Springs, Saline county, and in 1833 graduated at the Missouri university, at Columbia. He then read medicine under Dr. Hudson of Kentucky, and in 1837 graduated as an M. D. from Jefferson Medical college, Philadelphia, after which he returned to Lafayette county and engaged in the practice of his profession. The civil war coming on in 1861, he enlisted in the confederate army and served till the close of the conflict as surgeon of the 2nd Tennessee regiment.

He was at Shiloh, Murfreesborough, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge, Resaca, Dallas, New Hope, Kenesaw, Atlanta, Jonesboro, Franklin, Nashville, Bentonville and many other engagements of less note. He removed the body of Gen. Polk from the battlefield at Kennesaw mountains, and surrendered with Gen. Joe Johnson. At the close of the war he went to Texas, where he practiced medicine until 1869, when he returned to Missouri, and in 1872 came to Columbia, where he has remained ever since in the active discharge of his professional duties. Dr. Banks was married in 1836 to Sallie Luckett, of Pettis county, Mo., a native of Kentucky, and a niece of Col. McGoffin, a distinguished confederate officer. They had five children, all living. Their names are William M., John S., Anna McGoffin, Luther L. and Hiram Franklin.

Mrs. Banks died in this place on October 13, 1882. She was a member of the Presbyterian church. Dr. Banks was not a member of any church, though a Presbyterian in belief.

Personally he was among the most popular of our physicians and among the most skillful. The poor as well as the rich received his prompt professional attention.

A very large concourse attended his funeral obsequies, conducted by Rev. Broaddus of the Baptist church, at his late residence at 11 o'clock, Friday, Oct. 16, after which a long line of surviving relatives and friends followed his remains to the cemetery, the well-known gray saddle horse of the deceased being led in the rear of the hearse. Pall bearers: Doctors B. A. Watson, W. T. Lenoir, J. L. Corlew, A. M. McAlester, Woodson Moss, D. H. Henderson and R. L. Hopper.

TRIBUTE OF RESPECT.

COLUMBIA, Mo., Oct. 17, 1891.—Consequent upon the death of Dr. J. W. Banks, the following physicians, B. A. Watson (in chair), A. W. McAlester, D. H. Henderson, J. L. Corlew, R. L. Hopper, W. W. Moss and M. D. Lewis, met to tender the public, medical profession and family of deceased expressions of regret, respect and sympathy.

W. W. Moss and M. D. Lewis being appointed a committee, offer the following resolutions:

Whereas, On Oct. 14, 1891, Dr. J. W. Banks was removed, by death, from earth; therefore be it

Resolved, That the citizens of Columbia and Boone county have lost a respected representative, the profession to which he belonged an honored minister and his family of children an indulgent, loving father.

In this sad dispensation we sympathize with his household, relatives and friends.