

Obituaries of Cooper Countians 1880-1889

17 Mar 1882

**Issue of Boonville newspaper
For Henry W. W. McDearmon
Submitted by Elizabeth Werner**

DEATH OF HENRY E. W. McDEARMON

Week after week we are called upon to note the passing away of one or more of our oldest citizens, and today we chronicle another visitation of the grim reaper, death, top our community –his victim, this time, being Henry E. W. McDearmon, who died on last Wednesday, March 8th. He was born in Goochland County, Virginia, about 1808, and came to Old Franklin, in this State, nearly forty-five years ago. After a residence in that town for a few years, he came to Boonville, which was his home till he died.

Mr. McDearmon was a man of much more than ordinary intellect and a conscientious and respected citizen. He used to be one of the best known politicians of the State and was a firm political and personal friend of Senator Thomas H. Benton, who held him in high estimation. He was well acquainted with the political history of the country, always took great interest in such things, and however widely men may have differed from him, none ever doubted the honesty of his purposes for the sincerity of his convictions. For eight successive terms he was mayor of Boonville, his first election being in 1857 and his last in 1864, and we never had a better officer in that position.

At the beginning of the war he received a pistol shot in his right arm and from that time it hung useless by his side. This and other bodily infirmities, in the last years of his life, frequently confined him to his room as an invalid, and though he retained his intellect unimpaired to the last, his decease at any time might have been expected.

He leaves many relatives to mourn his loss, among them some of the most prominent and popular professional men in the State. He has been called upon to endure many sorrows which he felt most keenly and which bore heavily upon him, and he was doubtless willing to lay down the burden of his life. Those who knew him will revere his memory as a good citizen and an honest man. After more than three score years and ten, life's fitful fever is over with him. Honor to his memory and peace to his remains.

10 Nov 1882

**Issue of the Boonville Weekly Advertiser
For Joseph Madison Stephens
Submitted by Bill Scroggin**

DEATH OF MR. J. M. STEPHENS

We are called upon again this week to chronicle the passing away of another old landmark of this county, in the death of Mr. J. M. Stephens, better known as "Uncle Matt Stephens", as he was familiarly and affectionately called by all who had the good fortune to be one of his acquaintances. Mr. Stephens died, after a lingering illness at his home at Bunceton, in this county, on last Friday, November 5th, and was in his 74th year.

He came to this county in 1818, with his father, Mr. Josiah Stephens, and has lived at his late home most of the time since then. He was an uncle of the late Hon. Joseph L. Stephens, of this city, whose death we were called upon to chronicle a little over a year ago. He leaves a large family of grown sons and daughters in this county, to whom we extend our heartfelt sympathy in their great loss. His burial took place last Saturday from their family residence and was one of the largest funerals seen in that section of the county for years. The services were performed by Rev. J. A. T. Henderson. Mr. Stephens was one of Cooper's staunchest and most devoted sons and his life suggests a bright example for those he leaves behind them.

03 Apr 1885

**Issue of the Boonville Weekly Advertiser
For George Stretz
Submitted by Julie Spencer**

Died, on Thursday evening of last week, Mr. George Stretz, aged sixty-two years and for thirty years past a resident of Boonville. He was a well-known and respected citizen.

Friday, September 18, 1885
Issue of the Boonville Weekly Advertiser
For Joseph Madison Stephens
Submitted by Kathleen Ellis

Death of Mrs. Nancy Draffen

Mrs. Nancy R. Draffen, for 50 years a resident of Missouri, and one of the oldest inhabitants of Cooper County, died at the residence of her son, J.W. Draffen, Esq., near Boonville, last Thursday night, September 10, 1885. For years she had been in feeble health and to her death came as a welcome relief, almost her last rational utterance being: "If it please God, I wish he would take me." Mrs. Nancy R. Draffen was the daughter of James and Mary Douglass, and was born in Albemarle County, Virginia, on the 11th of October, 1789; she was therefore in her 97th year at the time of her death. She was the only daughter in a family of eight children and was the only survivor of that family. She married Thomas Draffen in 1814 and was the mother of 8 children. Of these, only 2 are living: James W. and William, both of this county. She joined the Christian Church in 1856 under the ministry of Elder George Langdon, now of Warrensburg. Deceased was a woman of remarkable energy and the strictest integrity. During her long and active life she did many acts of kindness, long to be remembered. Her funeral took place from the residence of Mr. J.W. Draffen last Saturday morning, to Walnut Grove Cemetery.

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