

For seventy two years my name has been on the church records, and I expect to remain in this M E Church, the church in which my parents lived and died and in which all my children have been associated, as long as my life is spared. The money and support I have given to the church, I have always felt--was well spent--and that I never lost anything by helping to build up Christs church on earth.

#### History of Myself and Family.

My first marriage was to Elizabeth Sage, fourth daughter of Col. Henry and Amanda Sage of Circleville, Ohio. We were married 17th of June 1841 at the home of the brides sister Mrs. Susan L. Williams in Mahomet township, Champaign county, State of Illinois. To us was born one son, Henry Hickman Harris, the 27th of April 1844. My wife after a short illness died the 1st of Oct. 1845. She united with the M. E. Church soon after our marriage, was a good christian woman, a faithful and true wife. Our only child Henry Hickman was about eighteen months old at the time of his mother's death. I afterward, on the 17th of May 1846, married Miss Mary Jane Heath of Champaign County, Illinois. To us were born six children, David Franklin born in April 1847, and died 25 of May 1847, Elizabeth born Feb. 19, 1848 and died April 18, 1862, George Payne, born Dec. 10, 1850, died Sept. 24, 1864, Rachel Jane Rebecca born Dec. 1st, 1853, married to David Andrew Phillippe, now living at their home in Hensley township Champaign county, Illinois, Mary Ida born Dec. 17, 1859, now living in her home in Champaign City, Benjamin Franklin born Nov. 28, 1868 died when one week old.

I wish to and will make mention in this historical family record the part my former wife Mary Jane is entitled and that she took in helping

me in all my efforts to succeed in my business enterprises, both financially and religiously. At the time of our marriage in 1846 this country was in an unsettled state far from being a desirable place to live in for comfort, pleasure and style. After our marriage I brought her home to my cabins and she went to work with a will. She was always ready and willing to do her part in the interest of the home willingly, without a murmur. Well there was many things to contend with that many wives would have raised Kane. What with eight or ten labouring men to board in and sleeping in our three cabins and keeping this up month in and out year in and out. This large family and beside this many comers to be entertained. A continuous line all the year round. And the preachers were willing visitors. We had many things to contend with, many people now nothing about. Notwithstanding the large family, we were obliged to keep in our business. This gave us a large family to board and care for. My wife was always ready to act her part. That brought in the best returns and I will here record in this our family history that My Deceased Wife Mary Jane is entitled to a large Share of our grand Success in our business enterprises during our Farm Life. She was a true and faithful christian wife. She was a member and faithful worker in the church until her death which occurred 23 of March 1883.

After living a rather lonely life for several years I met and became acquainted with Mrs. Saksak J. Conwell of Conwell, Ohio. We were married the seventh day of November 1887 at the home of her sisters Mrs. Elizabeth Jeffries in Springfield, Ohio. After our marriage we spent a few months in traveling in the west and south and East. We came to our home in this city where we had a very hearty welcome from my children, relatives and friends which made it very pleasant to us both.

and all our Friends. We lived verry pleasantley and happy together for nearley ten years. Her death was verry sudden and died from a stroke of applexa on the Fifteenth of January 1898. Sarah J., My Deceased wife, was a woman of rarie ability or attainments. She was a great worker in the church of her choice, the Me. E. church of which She had bene a Member for maney years. She soon took her place in society and in the Ladyes clubs of this city, in working to improve education, and high standing of the diferent clubs of which She was a member. She was the president of the social Science club at the time of her death. She made many good friends. Her death was lamented by maney. Sarah J. was a noble christian Lady and all mourn her premture Dath. She was alway ready and when sumons came She passed over without a struggle to her home in heaven.

After having gon to school and working on the farm untill I was sixteen years and six months old, I then commenced teaming driving team hawling goods South and west three years. Then engage in buying cattle. In Illinois and driving them east to Lancaster county Pemsylvania and sold them to feeders to be fatted for the Philadelphia market four years. Then settled down on a farm in Mahomet Tounship, Champaign County, Illinois in a new and unsettled State. Improved the lands bought, built houses and barns, raised corn, Hay, and oats, bought cattle and fed the farm products to stock raised and bought ready for Market and driven off or sold for twenty four years. Then in 1863 left the farm and moved to Champaign City, at that time a very small town; a thousand or twelve hundred inhabitances about. After having lived on the farm twenty four or five years I became tired of farm life with the amount of buisness I had to look after to keep every thing moveing as I had done all the years