

## John Phifer

Occupant Name: John Phifer

Location: Section E

Date of Birth: 1/6/1819

Date of Death: 1/12/1908

Date of Burial: 1908

Veteran: No

Multiple Occupants: No

Comment:



PHIFER—John Phifer, the subject of this sketch was no doubt the oldest man in Brownstown. He was born in New Orleans, January 6, 1819. His parents died when he was only two years old and he was carried by a man named Fuit, from New Orleans to the Rappite Settlement at Economy, Pa. Here he remained until he was eighteen years of age when he ran away from the sect and went to Louisville, Kentucky, after which he came to Jackson county, locating in Brownstown in 1852, where he has resided ever since. He was united in marriage March 30, 1843, to Sarah E. Jones, who preceded him to the grave March 31, 1888. To their union were born three sons and five daughters, viz: Harve, Will and John, Misses Lou and Adda Phifer, Mrs. Kate Beem, of Michigan; Mrs. Carrie Clements and Mrs. Lizzie Lauster, who are left to mourn his death.

Mr. Phifer was of a kind and jovial disposition, which made him many friends. He was a life-long Democrat and was honest, upright and conscientious in all that he did. On account of his failing health the past two years, he was not able to get down in town, but as long as the weather was pleasant he would sit in his accustomed place on the front porch and would always have a cheerful word and a smile for all his friends who passed by.

On Sunday, January 5, 1908, he was seriously injured by a fall and his sickness was made worse by a severe cold. All that medical aid and loving hands could do for him was done but "God touched him with His finger and he slept," the poet wrote. So we may say of this dear life—"God touched him with His finger and he slept," but not until he had lived a good long life. He died Sunday night at 7:30 o'clock, aged 89 years and 6 days. He was a kind and indulgent father and well may his children cherish his memory as a precious legacy. He was a member of the Presbyterian church for a number of years. The casket was covered with beautiful flowers all of which spoke peace, purity and immortality. At the open grave we say "farewell." May God's purest angels guard his slumbers.

The funeral services were conducted at the family residence, under the auspices of Washington Lodge, No. 13, F. & A. M. and Gordon Tanner Post, No. 159, G. A. R., Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock Rev. J. H. Weaver officiating after which the remains were laid to rest in Fairview cemetery. The family have the deepest sympathy of many friends in their bereavement.