

Death of James C. Cox

Veteran of Civil War, Dies In Upper Alton

James Clayton Cox, died Sunday morning at 2:30am after a lingering illness, which terminated in vulvular heart disease, at his home on College Ave. in Upper Alton. Mr. Cox had been suffering at times for several years, but not until recently was there any realization that his illness would escalate so seriously, as he was a well built healthy man and was very active in spite of his age. He had been troubled with Bright's Disease.

Mr. Cox was born April 12, 1830 in Mecklenburg County, Va. He enlisted in the 22nd Illinois Regiment, Company "G", of the Illinois Volunteers at the time of the Civil War as strong advocate of the emancipation of the Negro race, although he was born and raised in a community which believed in slavery. Once his home and all of his stock were burned and carried away by the southerners, when he moved to the North with his family and enlisted in the Army. He served in the last battle of the war. He was present on the battlefields of Fort Blinky, Nashville, Tronton, Inka, and numerous others, and took a conspicuous part in the memorable raid after Price in Missouri. He was wounded twice but not seriously, though he though aided to hasten his death.

Mr. Cox was married in 1852 in Mercer County, Ky., to Miss Mary Nicholson of that place, who survives him. The family spent the greater part of their time in the Central States, moving to Alton 18 years ago where they have lived ever since. Of this union there are living children as follows; Franks Cox, Clark Cox and Eugene Cox, all of Chicago and Mrs. W. T. Cathcart, Mrs. W. F. Sinks of Golconda, Mrs. W. G. Boman of Chicago and Mrs. Harold Powell of Salt Lake City. Mr. Cox enjoyed the distinction of but few. That is of being a great-grandfather. Of the entire family there had never been but one death before the infant child of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Powell, a grandchild of Mr. Cox. It will be remembered that the family reunion and celebration of the 50th wedding anniversary took place last October, at which there were thirty four members present, an unbroken chain of four generations.

At the table when it was suggested that some of the family are along must go, Mr. Cox jokingly said, "children, I fear that it is your father who must go."

Mr. Cox was a member of the Upper Alton M. E. Church, and has always been a faithful and conscientious Christian. He believed in being bright and cheerful, and in making the world better, as such as lay within his power. He was never known to have enemies but leaves a host of friends and acquaintances who will mourn his death. As he was the head of that family, his death will cause much sorrow to those who thought so much of him.

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Alton Telegraph

Gone to Grand Review

Veteran of Civil War, James C. Cox
Dies in Upper Alton

James C. Cox, one of the best known and respected old Residents of Upper Alton died Sunday Morning at 3 o'clock at his home after an illness of about one years duration. Mr. Cox had been afflicted with Bright's disease and heart trouble for several years, but had not been disabled. The past three of four months his health declined rapidly and about one week ago he told his family that he would be dead in 10 days. Mr. Cox passed into the great beyond without suffering pain and with his large family at his bedside and he breathed his last while sleeping.

James C. Cox was born in Mecklenburg County, Va. on April, 12, 1830. He was in his 74th year at the time of his death. In October 1852 he was married to Mary Ann Nicholson and last October he and his wife celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. When the Civil War broke out Mr. and Mrs. Cox were living in Kentucky and were driven away from their property because of Mr. Cox's Union views, when he came to Illinois, stopping at Virden. While there Mr. Cox enlisted in the army and served during the war with Company "G" 122nd Illinois Volunteers. After the war Mr. Cox resided at Virden until nineteen years ago, he moved his family to Upper Alton and has since resided there. Mr. Cox was a man of excellent character, respected by all. His family are sorely afflicted by the loss of a kind father and husband. Beside his wife, he leaves 7 children, all of whom are married. They are Frank, Clark and Eugene Cox of Chicago and Mrs. W. T. Cathcart of Upper Alton; Mrs. W. F. Sinks, of Golconda, Ill.; Mrs. W. G. Boman, of Chicago, and Mrs. Harold G. Powell, of Salt Lake City, Utah. All the children have arrived here except Mrs. Powell and she will arrive tomorrow morning.

The funeral will take place at 3 o'clock Tuesday afternoon. Services will be conducted at the home and will be public. Interment will be at Oakwood Cemetery and will be private. The Alton Post of G.A.R. will attend the funeral and pall bearers will be selected from the post.

(transcribed by Ron Ritchie from the "Scrapbook" of Mary Ann Cox.)

James Clayton Cox

www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GSvcid=261743&GRid=81954546

Fourth of seven children born to Wilson Cox and Martha *Mallett* Cox

Birth: Apr. 12, 1830 in Boydton, Mecklenburg Co., Virginia

Death: Jul. 3, 1903 in Upper Alton, Madison Co., Illinois at age 73 from heart disease

Married: 6 October 1852 to Mary Ann Nicholson in Danville, Boyle Co., Kentucky; eight children: