

J. M. Keener Lived Long Life: 206 Descendants

His Son, W. A. Keener Writes Brief Sketch And Tribute

By W. A. Keener.

James Morrison Keener died at the home of his son, W. A. Keener, at Gneiss, February 22, 1943, and was buried at Walnut Creek cemetery, February 23. The Rev. Frank Holland and the Rev. C. W. Modder, officiating. The pallbearers, Emory Keever, George Keener, Jim Page, Emory McCoy and J. D. McCoy, grandsons, nephews and son-in-law.

His wife died 15 years ago. He is survived by six living children; two son, W. A. and U. P. Keener; and four daughters, Mrs. S. C. Woods and Mrs. Fanny Moses of Gneiss; Mrs. Ella Jones of Elijah and Mrs. Jim Page of Waynesville; 38 grandchildren, 128 great grandchildren and 34 great, great grandchildren and an immense number of friends and a good many enemies and one lone sister, Aunt Mary Jennings, of Otto.

He was the son of Ulrich and Sophronia Ledford Keener. His father was a native of Sevier county, Tennessee. He was born February 19, 1850, in a little one-room log cabin near the place where Pritchard Russell's house now stands, on the J. H. Ledford farm. He was 93 years and three days old when he died.

He was a retired minister. He practiced several different religions, but was finally converted and prac-



tised Christianity in his last days; hence, his enemies.

In his young days he taught several schools, farmed, drank whiskey and fought some and was twice elected for County Commissioner of Macon county. He was the average citizen, taking him all the way around. He had his faults as all of us have, and also his good qualities. He was a man of splendid nerve and constitution. He was ill about three weeks but bore up well and was but very little trouble.

We sure miss him very much in our home.