

## BU FARW.

DAVID J. WILLIAMS.

Our dear brother David J. Williams departed this life August 29th, 1894, at Farmersville, N. Y. He had long been suffering from enlargement of the heart, a disease which he, together with many other noble soldiers, contracted doubtlessly during the excitement and hardships of the

late war. This, his exodus from the bondage of the flesh, was occasioned by his efforts in the emancipation of the negro from the bondage of slavery. He was interred in Freedom churchyard, Aug. 31st. A very large circle of friends and acquaintances attended his funeral, when Revs. Thomas Seyse of Sandusky, and D. C. Edwards of Freedom, officiated—the latter preaching from a text chosen for him by the deceased.

Our brother was born in Pembroke-shire, Wales, and was there baptized when about 16 years of age by the Rev. W. Owen of Jabez. He immigrated to this country in 1850, and settled at Freedom, N. Y., where he lived until within a few years, when he moved to Farmersville Station. He was twice married—the second time about twelve years ago to Miss Jennie Lewis of Remsen, who was to him a helpmeet indeed, and his comfort during his illness. By her tender and devoted attention to him his sufferings were greatly alleviated. There are two sons of the first marriage, Thomas and Robert, who are faithful members of the Freedom Baptist church; and there are two little boys of the second marriage.

It is not an easy task to form a just estimate of one's character; at best it will be incomplete and imperfect. We do not possess the conditions requisite for a perfect estimate; we can only judge of the outer character—the circumference of character—and this only at the few points of contact which it makes with our imperfect observation. The centre of character, the inner principles and motives of the heart, are unknown to us, and we can only read them through distorted impressions—impressions that are refracted in their entrance into our lives. How often our outer character is not the exact reproduction of our inner principles—often better, and sometimes much worse. Consequently the self known to one's self is very different from the same as known by others. And we

thus judge by impressions, whether false or true.

Our brother David J. made most favorable impressions upon the mind, whether we view him as a citizen of the United States or as a citizen of heaven. As a citizen of his adopted country, how loyal a subject! A brief reference to his connection with the war will suffice as an evidence. He entered the army in the fall of 1862. He was one of eleven Welshmen who enlisted from the town of Freedom, under the recruiting services of Mr. William Charles. He was wounded in the shoulder in the battle of Chancellorville, on May 2d, 1863. After he was wounded he crawled into some bushes, and there he remained for some time until the shades of night came to his rescue, when in some way which he himself could not explain, he escaped being taken prisoner and reached the union line before morning. He was taken to the hospital and received the best of care and attention. In this battle the union army suffered a loss of over 17,000 in killed and wounded.

He boasted of a higher citizenship—the citizenship of heaven. He enlisted in Zion's army when very young, and continued through life to be a brave soldier of the cross. His religion was not a mere superficial profession, but the growth of deep conviction. As such it controlled his whole life and activities. He acted his religion in all its relationships, in his family, church and neighborhood. In the church he was a strong supporter of order and peace, and always most ready to fulfil the obligations of church membership. He was proverbially faithful in his attendance at the week-night meetings of his church. The obstacle that would cause him to absent himself from them were insurmountable. Recently he was deprived of these privileges on account of ill health and distance. He was a most affectionate husband and father. It was always a pleasure to enter his home, it was truly a home governed

by the principle of Christ's religion. His conversation was always pivoted on some subject of interest to the Master's cause. During our acquaintanceship with him, the only thought that seemed to becloud his face and sadden his heart, in view of his near dissolution, was that his death would be borne heavily by his beloved wife and children. Alas! the dearest bonds must be broken assunder. Death came and claimed his victim. David J. is not, for God took him. May the Lord give grace and strength to his dear widow and children.

## FREEDOM, 1971

Geo. P. Williams Dead—Still in Hospital—The Ice Harvest

Feb. 15—Geo. P. Williams died at his home in Hinsdale Tuesday, after a lingering illness. Mr. Williams' boyhood days were spent here and with his family had resided here many years, where he has a host of friends besides the family. He is survived by one sister, Mrs. Mary Edwards, of this place.

George P. Williams was born in the town of Many, Oneida Co., N. Y., July 13, 1839. In 1841 his people moved to Freedom, N. Y., where a greater part of his life was spent. At the beginning of the Civil War he enlisted in Co. D. 64th 71 Y. V. and served until Nov. 1862 when he was discharged on account of gun shot wound. He re-enlisted in Sept. 20, 1864 and served until the close of the war. He united with the Baptist church when a young man and remained a faithful member until his death. On Nov. 28, 1865, he was married to Margaret Owens of Freedom. He was well known and highly respected in the community where he had resided for many years. He had been in ill health for several years and died Feb. 7, 1911. Mr. Williams is survived by his wife and six children Mrs. D. E. Johnson, Mrs. E. E. Bennett, Mrs. W. F. Brown, of Hinsdale, Mrs. E. B. Farwell of Ischua, Mrs. B. B. Bowen of Sheffield, Pa., and R. O. Williams of Athens, O. The funeral was held Friday Feb. 10 at his late residence, Rev. Fairfield, pastor of the Baptist church officiating.

## Mrs. H. H. Roberts

Mary Rees Roberts of Freedom, well known to many Rushford people passed away at the home of her son, Thomas Roberts on Friday March 1st, on the old homestead where she had lived for nearly seventy years. Mary Rees was born May 3rd, 1828 in Wales, and came to this country when only eleven years of age. She was married to Hugh Roberts December 12th 1848. To them were born four children, one son, and three daughters, Mrs. J. J. Thomas of Rushford, Mrs. M. M. Young of East Aurora and Thomas Roberts of Freedom, living. Mrs. T. R. Peet died about thirty-five years ago. She had living, nine grand children, and eighteen great grand children. Mary Rees Roberts, had she lived, would have been ninety years old on May 3rd. Funeral was held March 4th at the church, where she had been a staunch member for many years. Rev. Williams of Rushford officiating. The entire community respected her and with us mourn our loss.