

Ten Old-Timers of York County

WHAT there are ten persons at McCool, York county, Neb., who are over 90 years of age is a remarkable fact and is something that not many towns of the same population can boast of. The oldest is Judge Brower, who was 84 on April 7, 1903, and the youngest is Grandpa Preat, who passed the eightieth milestone on the 12th day of December. Judge Brower was born in Fulton county, New York. When 12 years of age he moved with his parents to Ashtabula county, Ohio, where he studied law and was admitted to the bar. In 1852 he moved to Pontiac, Ill., where he practiced law successfully for a number of years and received the title which still clings to him and which he bears with dignity. He still possesses the gold-headed cane which the members of the Livingston county bar presented to him. Although in his eighty-fifth year Judge Brower is able to read without glasses. George Fair came to Nebraska in the fall of 1871. After living one year at Crete he moved to York county, where he has since resided, most of the time on a farm near McCool. He was 73 on the 27th day of December. Uncle John Rush was born in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, October 23, 1822. He has lived in York county thirty-one years. Mr. Rush is a veteran of the civil war and has a record of which he is justly proud. He was married May 7, 1842, to Miss Susan Stanton. They recently celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of their wedding. Aunt Susan was born March 14, 1829, and is therefore in her eighty-fourth year. Mr. Michael McMullen was born at Limerick, Ireland, April 8, 1821; came to America in 1848 and lived in New York. In 1849 he was married and moved to Wisconsin, remaining there two years; from there he went to Illinois, where he was for several years in the employ of the Chicago & Alton Railroad company. Tiring of this, he tried farming and finally, in 1881, he came to York county, Nebraska, where he has since resided on a farm one mile west of McCool. Richard Preat was 80 years old on the 12th day of December. He was born in New Jersey. His parents were slaveholders in New Jersey, and when the emancipation was declared they necessarily lost a great deal of their personal property. Since leaving New Jersey Mr. Preat has lived in New York, Minnesota and Nebraska. He came here in 1884. He enjoys good health. Aunt Sylvia Porter was born September 20, 1821, and is a native of New Hampshire. She came to Nebraska from Champaign county, Illinois, in the winter of 1878, and has been a resident of York county ever since.



GROUP OF OLD RESIDENTS OF YORK COUNTY, NEBRASKA.

practiced in both Ohio and Iowa. In 1838 he was appointed first sergeant of a light infantry company, and in 1840 was elected captain; later lieutenant colonel of a rifle battalion, and then brigadier general of the First brigade, Thirteenth division, Ohio militia, which he resigned in 1848. He built a steam flour mill in Madison county, and also one in Clark county, Ohio. Colonel Crabb joined the Methodist church in 1843 and was an official member until moving to York in 1878. He was made Master Mason in 1846, a Royal Arch Mason in 1849, at Columbus, O.; a Knight Templar and R. S. M. in 1867 at Muscatine, Ia. He moved to Muscatine in 1855, and to Washington county in 1857, where he engaged in the hotel business. In 1861 he raised a company and joined the Seventh regiment, Iowa infantry. He fought in the battle of Belmont and was made a prisoner on the retreat to the boats. He was a prisoner just eight months, and on his return home assisted in raising several regiments in 1862. He was made colonel of the Nineteenth regiment, Iowa Volunteer infantry, and commanded the post at Springfield, Mo., during the winter of 1862 and 1863, participating in the battle of Springfield January 8, 1863. The general in command being wounded, Colonel Crabb successfully commanded the whole army against General Marmaduke, and defeated him, and that distinguished Missourian's flag of truce is now in Colonel Crabb's possession. The colonel resigned on account of disability and was mustered out March 16, 1863. He then moved from Iowa to Nebraska in 1872, and engaged in the furniture business in Lincoln, where he again built a water mill in 1876. He moved to York in 1878 to engage in the hotel business. He bought the McCool roller mills in 1899 and moved there. Colonel Crabb was married a second time in Lincoln in 1888 to Ruth Mills, who was born in Mad-



COLONEL AND MRS. B. CRABB OF YORK, Neb.

ison county, Ohio, November 7, 1820, and was for many years a successful teacher. She joined the Baptist church in the spring of 1843.

Soldier of Three Wars

On the United States pension roll of the Topeka agency is the name of a man who has served in three wars and is 100 years old. He is Thomas E. Sauls of Webb City, Mo., where he conducts a little shoe

shop and makes a living in spite of his hundred years. He was born in Tennessee in 1803. He was a soldier in the Seminole, the Mexican and the civil wars. In the civil war he was a sergeant of the Sixth Kansas cavalry. That was after he had passed 50. After the Mexican war he represented the county of his nativity in the Tennessee legislature. While he lived in Tennessee he was a lawyer. His pension is \$30 a month and was granted by a special act of congress.

Colonel B. Crabb is one of the best known men in southeastern Nebraska. He was born in Madison county, Ohio, October 20, 1821, where he lived on the farm eleven years and received a common school education. In 1841 he with his father engaged in the mercantile business, and from '41 to '43 he studied medicine. Owing to poor health he was obliged to give up the study of medicine. In 1848 he resumed the study of medicine, graduating from the Starling Medical college, Columbus, O. He

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