

PONTIAC BILL POSTER

Death of E. W. Peck.

Edward W. Peck, one of Oakland's best known and oldest pioneers, died Sunday morning at his residence in this city on Huron street west in the 83d year of his age. Two weeks to-day the deceased was taken sick with dysentery, and although medical aid was promptly summoned and every attention paid him, he continued to grow worse and quietly passed away about seven o'clock Sunday morning.

Funeral services, conducted by Rev. B. Jerome, assisted by Rev. J. M. Watson, will be held at the house this (Wednesday) afternoon at two o'clock.

The deceased was born March 19, 1807, at West Bloomfield, New York, and came to Michigan and Oakland county in 1831, settling in Troy, where he continued to reside 23 years.

During his stay at Troy Mr. Peck held several local offices and was also postmaster. He was a candidate for county Clerk on the first republican ticket in 1854, was elected, moved to Pontiac and assumed the duties of the office the following January. Mr. Peck was re-nominated and re-elected in 1856, and after his term of office expired was elected supervisor of the 4th ward several times.

For years the deceased has been a consistent member of the Presbyterian church of Pontiac, always doing his duty, no matter in what position

he was placed. The writer has been personally acquainted with the deceased for many years, and always found him a straight-forward, genial gentleman. As secretary of the Oakland County Pioneer Society, he has labored long and faithfully, and in numerous ways endeared himself to citizens of old Oakland generally.

The deceased leaves a widow and three children, Mrs. ex-Gov. Jerome and Edward J. Peck, of Saginaw, and Mrs. B. B. Buckhout, of East Saginaw.

Along with other biographical sketches in the pioneer book, we make the following extract from an article written by Mr. Peck himself:

First, let me say that our branch of the family name descended from William Peck, who was born in London in 1601, emigrated to America in 1637, and settled in Connecticut. My grand-father, of the fifth generation from Wm., moved from Connecticut in 1800 with a family of six sons and four daughters and settled in West Bloomfield, Ontario county, N. Y. My father had, in 1798, driven a yoke of oxen, attached to a cart loaded with flour, from Connecticut to Ontario county, over 300 miles, and subsequently returned with his oxen and cart to Connecticut, and again come on with his father. Personally, I have not suffered from being a pioneer of Oakland, as many have; my life has not been a very eventful one, and I have great reason to be thankful for the blessing of good health and for the constant supply of my daily wants, which is about all we need here or can enjoy. I came to the then territory of Michigan on a tour of observation in May, 1830, in company with two friends, one a distant relative, the other, Mr. John Garland, who the next year settled in Pontiac, and soon after married a daughter of Judge Bagley, a now Mrs. Nancy Davis. We spent some three or four weeks traveling in Washtenaw, Wayne and Oakland counties, two or three days in Pontiac, finding here an acquaintance, the late Francis Darrow, who took special pains to show us the town and its advantages. Pontiac was then like Plattsburg in the old song, "Town small, he grow bigger do hereafter." There was a hotel, situated, I think, on the corner where Boyd's millinery store is, a small hatter's shop, two or three stores, and a printing office

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