

B. P. Rice Dead

**Well Known Resident of City Passed Away After Illness
Of Several Weeks**

Was a Native of Adams County and Long a Resident of the City

Benjamin Pendleton Rice, aged sixty-nine years, a life long resident of Adams county, one of the best known men of Decatur, where he has lived for nearly fifty years, passed away Friday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock at his home on North Seventh street.

Death followed a gradual decline the past six weeks to which his condition was such that he was confined to his home. A weakness of heart, with complications, made his condition very serious and several times during that time he was very near death.

Mr. Rice was a member of one of the oldest families in the county. His father, Benjamin J. Rice, a native of Virginia, and his mother, Mary Pillars Rice was born August 20, 1848 (sic). For settled on a farm in Root township. It was there that Benjamin Pendleton Rice was born August 20, 1848. For some time after arriving at young manhood, he engaged in farming, until in 1871, he purchased a sawmill and engaged in the manufacture of lumber.

Later he became the owner of the stone quarry north of this city, and also became a dealer in building material and lime. He continued the lumber and timber business during the subsequent years of his life, the last few years of which he lived a retired life. His work took him over much of the county and he became known to the greater number of the residents thereof, his friends being numbered by the scores.

Feb 19, 1867, he was married to Miss Elizabeth Hart, then residing in Monroeville, later in this city. More than fifty years they have been companions in life, this being the first death in their immediate family. With the widow, there survive five children, Harvey D., of this city; David J., Lincoln, Neb.; Nora, wife of Mel Butler, Decatur; Maude O'Kelly, Florence, Oregon; Blanche, wife of Elmer Elzey, Akron, O. There are also eleven grandchildren and one great grandchild.

John and James Rice, of Decatur; David, of Root township; Mrs. Jonas Cline, Root township; and Mrs. Elizabeth Wagner, of Fort Wayne, are surviving brothers and sisters.

Mr. Rice was one of ten children. Brothers and sisters who have passed before him were Will Rice, Mary Rice Davy, Rachel Rice Blossom and Millard F. Rice.

The deceased was a highly respected man, and not his family, to whom he was greatly devoted, but the entire community, will feel deeply the loss occasioned by his departure.

Fraternally, he was identified with the Nation Union. Mr. Rice was a member of the Methodist church.

The funeral will be held Monday afternoon at two o'clock from the Methodist church, with the Rev. F. F. Thornburg officiating. Interment will be in the Decatur cemetery.