

DEATH OF MRS. JAS. DUFFIN
RESIDED MANY YEARS IN MISSOURI AND
SAW NUMEROUS CHANGES.

After a long residence of 72 years on the same farm Mrs. Jas. Duffin, one of Missouri Township's grand old ladies, passed peacefully and triumphantly into the land of rest on Sunday, June 28, having reached the advanced age of 92 years. Deceased had not been ill prior to her death, and during her long and useful life had enjoyed remarkably good health. She was a member of the Crumlin Presbyterian Church and for many years took an active interest in its work. Her husband, the late James Duffin, predeceased her 31 years, and to them were born twelve children, who were all born and raised on the old homestead, 3rd avenue. Of these eight survive—Albert, Thomas (ex-warden Middlesex), Samuel (postmaster of Thorn-dale), Joseph, Mrs. Arthur Brown, and Henry, Miss Eliza and Miss Phoebe at home. Their eldest son, William, who was stationed with the volunteers at Point Edward during the Fenian raid, contracted typhoid fever there, to which he succumbed. Two daughters also predeceased her, Mrs. John Talbot (Jessie) and Mrs. Thos. Taylor (Cody).

Mrs. Duffin came from her birth-place near Grimsby, Ont., to Missouri in 1842, and made her home in what was then a forest. Of a cheerful, happy disposition she went about helping to change a wilderness into a veritable paradise, and her long tenure of life gave her the opportunity of seeing many great changes. There were no railroads then, few horses, no oil lamps, and in fact few comforts of any kind. To the village of London she was either forced to walk or ride behind a yoke of oxen, and homemade tallow dips were a luxury. The fire had to be started with steel and flint. Yet she came through all the vicissitudes and privations of pioneer life with the same happy smile that she started out with, and in addition raised to maturity a family of eleven of which anyone might well be proud. Motherhood in those days meant more than it does to-day. Nurses were unknown to mothers then and physicians were far distant. Yet the deceased bravely overcame all her difficulties, saw the forest yield to the fertile field, the oxen and buckboard to the horse and carriage, these to the automobile, the tallow dip to the brilliant lamp and electric light; she saw the hamlet of London grow into a beau-

tiful and imposing city, and the Niagara power line, which passes through the home of her girlhood at Grimsby extend its arms and actually come directly in front of her own door in Missouri; she saw villages spring up in the midst of the forest and a daily mail service to her own door gradually take the place of the old-time courier on horseback, who went to London once a fortnight for the mail and left it all at the home of the postmaster several miles away; she saw the telephone come into common use and many wonderful improvements in methods of farming. She observed all these changes and took a lively interest in all that transpired. She was very fond of reading, and a day or two before her death read a letter from her grandson in Saskatchewan without glasses.

She was mother to twenty grandchildren and four great grandchildren, six of the former performing the last sad duty of carrying her remains to their resting place in Brown's Hill Cemetery, viz.: Wilbur, Willie, Freeman, Edward and Harry Duffin, and Corbin Brown. Rev. John Smith, her pastor, held impressive services beside the grave and at her late home. On the new grave were laid beautiful floral tributes from the congregation of the Crumlin Presbyterian Church, the sons and grandchildren. Everyone who knew the late lady respected her, and the long cortege that followed to the cemetery indicated how highly she was esteemed.

Of Interest to All.

Mr. John McFarlan, M.P.P., has purchased a Studebaker car. It is a beauty.

Miss Agnes Mooney, of Toronto, was a recent visitor with her friend, Miss Mae McFarlan, 4th ave.

Mrs. James Baskerville, 4th ave., has returned from a pleasant visit with her parents at her old home in Walter's Falls, Ont.

Mr. J. B. Smallman, of Smallman & Ingram Co., London, accompanied by his sisters, the Misses Smallman, were recent visitors to friends in Missouri.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Day, 8th ave., are touring the West, and before returning will visit relatives in British Columbia. They will be away until December.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Gibson and Miss Belle McMartin, of Calgary, were recent visitors at the home of their brother, Mr. E. J. McMartin, 5th ave.

While the Nudger was at press word was received of the death of Mr. Jos. Mahon, sr., and out of respect to his memory space is made for this brief notice. Deceased had reached the grand age of 84 years on 12th July last. He had never been sick and never known the taste of medicine until a few weeks ago. In many other respects he was a wonderful old man though young in every movement. His death marks the third break in the Mahon family within a year, and six within five years. First his beloved wife, then his daughter and eldest son, James, then Mrs. Wm. Mahon, and a short while after his brother William. All these deaths left their impress upon him. He is survived by three sons, William, Joseph and George, and one daughter, Mrs. J. G. Goarley, who will have the deep sympathy of very many in their bereavement, the family being so widely known.

The always popular fair at Thorn-dale was more so than ever this year.

Missouri needs a stone crusher in the worst way, and so long as it goes without one it will be wasting money on road work. Townships boasting good roads have crushers.

Mrs. Wm. Mullis, Mrs. Joseph Mahon and Mr. Rob. Mullis were visitors to Mrs. E. E. Tonner and Miss Mable Mullis at Cleveland, Ohio, recently.

Mr. Cecil Mollard, of Parkhill, last season with Mr. Jos. Skelton at the cheese factory, and Miss Jean Smibert, of Devizes, were united in marriage recently and have taken up their home on 4th ave. north on the farm owned by Mrs. Mollard's brother.

Messrs. Jos. Mahon and Milton Pardy recently lost eight head of young cattle by suffocation. The cattle were on pasture on the north farm of Mr. J. G. Goarley, and during the late hot spell when the creeks were dry they broke into an enclosure in which was an old well at the bottom of which was a small quantity of stagnant water. In their eagerness to reach it they one after the other pitched into the well. They were missed from the herd very shortly after, but supposing that they had got onto the road the owners scoured the country but could find no trace of them, and it was only by accident that they were found in the well.