

Bushnell Record (newspaper); Friday March 30, 1888

George Wetzel, after a lingering illness of six weeks from lung trouble and infirmities of age, sunk to rest at 12; 30 p.m. the 17th inst, at the age of 79 years, 4 months and 5 days.

Deceased was born in Carlisle, Cumberland Co. Pennsylvania, November 13, 1808. His father died when he was about five years old, and his mother was left with three small children, he being the eldest. His mother was married a second time, when he was about eight years old to Balser Lutz, of Augusta Count, Virginia to which state they then moved. At the age of 18 George Wetzel began and served an apprenticeship at the carpenter trade.

He was married to Miss Sarah Nebergall, of Augusta County, Virginia, April 12, 1828. They were raised under the influence of the Reformed and Lutheran Churches respectively and both professed faith in Christ in 1834 and united with the United Brethren Church in 1846, living faithful and consistent Christians until death. They moved to Fulton County, this state, in the spring of 1845, settling near Vermont, where they lived about eighteen months, when they removed to the vicinity of Table Grove, where they resided six years when they [moved] to Harris Township, New Philadelphia, where the owned a home of their own and have lived until death ended their earthly pilgrims.

This remarkable couple walked side by side for over 57 years, sharing their joys and sorrows together until the 14th of November 1885, when Mother Wetzel was called home. They raised a family of ten children, seven sons and three daughters, the eldest 57 and the youngest 35 years of age, named respectively John S. Christopher, Geo. W. William. B. Mary, William H, Ahaz B. Mary C. (Bryan). Daniel W., Sarah H. (Sennett) Granville L. and Eliza J (Hunnicut), all of whom are living in a radius of 22 miles of the old homestead and visited their father during his last illness and were present at the funeral, except William H., who lives in Kansas. Two of them living in Fulton County and seven in McDonough.

The deceased lived to see his posterity number 62 grandchildren, 47 of who are living and 24 great-grandchildren, 20 of whom are living.

Since coming to this state he has made farming his occupation, this being the occupation of all his sons and sons-in-law.

He bore his sufferings during his long illness with great patience, saying that he was only waiting for the end, when he could go home and rest. The funeral was held at 11 o'clock a.m. the 19th inst., at the Point Pleasant Church, near the old homestead. The discourse was delivered by Rev. A. Rigney assisted by Rev. H. Cline, after which the remains were laid to rest in the adjoining cemetery by the side of his wife, who had recently preceded him. Notwithstanding the deep mud and almost incessant rain of the day, the church was well filled with sorrowing relatives and friends. Uncle Geo. Wetzel's bright cultured intellect and answering integrity of character, together with his fine sense of honor in all his relations with his fellow men, and his large hearted benevolence combined to commanded the respect and esteem of all who knew him, so that you can be truthfully said that of friends he had many and enemies few or none. His home has ever been noted for its generous hospitality and sunshine, where both friend and stranger always received a cordial welcome.

Contributed by Joyce Worthington Brewer

[Buried Point Pleasant Cemetery, Fulton County, Illinois]