

JAMES CONRAN

James Conran was born in Dunlaven, County Wicklow, Ireland, in August, 1830, and came to St. Louis with his mother in 1850.

He went to work for his uncle, Pat Harlington, who had a carriage making establishment at what is now Marcus and Easton Avenues, then the St. Charles Rock Road, and later he and his brother-in-law conducted the business.

He was active in Catholic temperance organizations as a young man, and during his whole life was never known to be intoxicated. Prior to the civil war, he was an active member of a Company of Home Guards in St. Louis known as the Greys. He was selected as one of the military escort for the excursion train that started from St. Louis to Jefferson City to celebrate the completing of the Missouri Pacific Railroad to the Capital in 1856. The train was wrecked by the collapse of the bridge over the Gasconade river. Many of the prominent men of St. Louis met death in this disaster. Mr. Conran was not injured, and guarded the train that carried many of the dead back to St. Louis. He was probably the last of the survivors of that disaster.

He was married at Normandy Mo., in 1860 to Ann Bardon, and shortly thereafter moved to St. Louis county, removing to High Hill, Montgomery County in 1867. For a short time he conducted a general store at High Hill in partnership with Judge Wm. Clark. He then moved to

a farm one mile north of High Hill, where he continued to live until 1900, when he retired to Jonesburg, Mo.

He reared a family of nine children, seven of whom and his widow survive him, together with fifteen grandchildren.

Thomas and Mollie Tippet live near Jonesburg, Lizzie Keithley in Rodondo Beach, Calif., James F. in St. Louis, John in Glasgow and Loretta Taylor in Kansas City. Charles, the eldest son, has been in China the last fifteen years. All of his children except Charles were present during his last illness.

He died February 22nd at 9:30 a. m. and was buried with Réquiem mass from St. Patrick's Catholic church, February 24.

He always took an active interest in the condition of Ireland and was well pleased to live to see Ireland free.

His widow is 85 years of age. —Contributed.

Newspaper obituary for
James Conran, 1922,
Montgomery County,
Missouri