

OBITUARY - Flora Journal Record - January 1917.....

John Thomas **Kurr**, son of John G. and Mary M. **Kurr**, was born in Williamsburg, Pennsylvania, March 20, 1842. Two weeks after his father's death and in early childhood he moved with his mother and brother, Jonathan to St. Paul, Indiana. Here his brother was married and to this union one son was born, James **Kurr**. About ten years later, in 1857, he, with his mother brother and wife moved to Clay County, Illinois, and first resided near where P. E. **McDuffee** lived and late to a farm owned by his nephew, James **Kurr**.

John Thomas **Kurr** enlisted in the service of his country, August 10, 1862, for three years during the war and was mustered into service September 2, 1862 at Centuria, Ill, in Co. F, 98th Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was promoted to 4th Sergeant, January 5th, 1863, and was advanced again for meritorious service to 1st Sergeant June 15, 1865. Also on the same day, he was commissioned as 2nd Lieutenant by Governor Richard **Oglesby**. He was mustered out at Nashville, Tenn. June 27, 1865, with an honorable record.

John T. **Kurr** was united in marriage, after the War, to Sarah A. **Creamer**, on December 21, 1867. To this union were born five children: Mary Matilda, Ella Ann, William Cyrus, Mattie May, and John Thomas, Jr. The oldest child, Mary, was married to C. V. **Golden**. She died February 26, 1907, in her 39th year, leaving one son, Albert Owen **Golden**.

Bro. **Kurr** was of Presbyterian parentage and was baptized on May 5, 1842. He became a member of that church and continued to be until 1868 when he was united with the Methodist Episcopal church at Foster schoolhouse. He later became one of the charter member at Golden and also one of the original Board of Trustees of the same church, which position he held to the close of his life. When the first church building was struck by lightning and burned July 4, 1912, Bro. **Kurr** became very active in the work of rebuilding, both with labor and money.

Bro **Kurr** loved his family. He was a devoted husband, a loving father, a trusted friend, a kind neighbor, a safe counselor, a true patriot and an earnest christian.

His last illness was one that affected the heart and caused him to be confined to the house for nearly a year. All was done that loving hands and constant attention could do for him. The end came finding him watching and praying. Thus he laid aside his armor for the crown January 7, 1916, aged 73 years, 9 months, and 17 days.

In his passing he leaves to mourn their loss, his devoted wife, his four loving children; Mrs. Ella A. **Mearns**, William Cyrus **Kurr** and Mattie May **Kurr** of Louisville township, and John Thomas **Kurr** Jr. of Harter township; nine grandchildren, one nephew and other relatives besides a host of friends and neighbors.

Burial was in the Golden Cemetery.