

Obituary.

James Franklin Fortney was born at Congress, Wayne county, Ohio, Nov. 11, 1864, and came with his parents to Michigan in the year 1875, where he grew to manhood and pursued his studies in the high school at Charlotte, graduating in the year 1886, with the highest honors of the class numbering seventeen.

After teaching for a short time, to more thoroughly equip himself for his chosen avocation as teacher, he was in attendance during the summer terms of the years '91-'92-'93 at the Normal school at Valparaiso, Indiana.

Aside from being an obedient and affectionate son and loving brother, he was an affable and accomplished gentleman, and in the front ranks of his profession. Was in charge of the school at Bismark, Eaton county, during the years of '90 and '91, since which time he has been principal of the schools at Woodland, Barry county, where he was held in high esteem by all who knew him, as he was a professed christian and an effective and useful worker in the Sabbath school.

He was a member of the Knights of Pythias Lodge at Woodland, and also of Lodge No. 62, I. O. O. F., of Charlotte. After only a few days illness from an aggravated attack of erysipelas, death claimed him as its victim on May 6, 1895, being 30 years and 6 months of age. The relatives appreciate the kindness of friends shown during the period of this great sorrow.

The funeral services took place at the house of his brother, D. W. Fortney, near Charlotte, May 8. A suitable memorial was read by Mr. B. S. Holly of Woodland, after which an appropriate sermon was delivered by Rev. Mr. Keeler, followed with remarks by the writer. His favorite song, "Home Sweet Home" was sung in conclusion by his scholars, who seemed loth to lay away the one they loved so well even midst a tribute of flowers. More than three hundred and fifty persons, among whom were the associate teachers and scholars and members of the different fraternities followed the remains to the cemetery at East mel church.

SAMUEL M. JOHNSON.
Pastor Charlotte Circuit.