

WILLIAM JAMES JOHNSON

01-25-1811 -- 05-12-1886

UNKNOWN CEMETERY

DADE CITY ?, FL

NAME: WILLIAM JAMES JOHNSON

PERSONAL INFORMATION

OCCUPATION(S): PHYSICIAN

OTHER INFORMATION: MAYOR OF FT GAINES

MASONIC INFORMATION

LODGE(S): DARLEY 17

STATE OFFICES HELD: _____

CHAPTER(S): CHP LAFAYETTE #12 1844

STATE OFFICES HELD: GRAND HIGH PRIEST 1878-1879

COUNCIL(S): W.A. GRAHAM #22

STATE OFFICES HELD: THRICE ILLUSTRIOUS HIRAM TYRE 1869-1871

COMMANDERY(IES): _____

STATE OFFICES HELD: _____

OTHER MASONIC ORGANIZATIONS: OHP 1861

OTHER MASONIC STATE OFFICES HELD: _____

NATIONAL MASONIC OFFICES HELD: _____

MASONIC AWARDS: _____

OTHER INFORMATION: _____



WILLIAM J. JOHNSON
Grand High Priest 1878.

WILLIAM J. JOHNSON, the eighth Grand High Priest, was born in Jasper County on January 25, 1811, and died on May 12, 1886, at Dade City, Florida. Early in life he selected the profession of medicine as his vocation, and for fifty-four years his life was devoted to the interests of suffering humanity. Several of the first medical colleges of the country conferred upon him honorary degrees or a mark of distinction for his eminent services in discovering enlightened methods of treatment for many diseases. He became a Mason in 1840 and was exalted to the Royal Arch soon after. He was High Priest of LaFayette Chapter, No. 12, Fort Gaines, almost from the time of its organization until 1872, when he declined re-election. He also declined to serve as Grand High Priest but one year. At the convocation of the Grand Chapter he was a faithful attendant, and always ready to do his duty and assist in the advancement of the order. His country always honored him with any position which he would accept. He served many years as Mayor of his town, Judge of the Inferior Court, represented his county several times in both Houses of the Legislature, and was a delegate to the National Democratic Convention in Charleston in 1860. By the strictest morality, the most sensitive appreciation of honor, and the most undeviating principles of virtue, he enjoyed through life the confidence and esteem of his fellows.

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38 PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER

For a new Chapter to be known as Owen D. Moore Chapter No. —, to be located at Sharon, Taliaferro county.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

J. E. REDWINE, Chairman,
A. L. BARTLETT,
W. B. CHAPMAN,
J. M. SIMMONS,
R. D. MURRELL,
B. M. OWENS,
W. T. MORGAN,

Committee.

Communication Read.

Most Excellent Companion W. A. Graham read the following communication :

TAMPA, FLA., Feb. 18, 1899.

W. A. GRAHAM, Fort Gaines:

DEAR SIR AND COMPANION.—The widow of Companion W. J. Johnson, deceased, is living here in Tampa in destitute circumstances. She states that after the death of her husband the members of his Chapter gave her some papers and told her if she ever got in need to present them to any Chapter and she would secure help. She presented the papers to our Chapter, which have been accepted as satisfactory proof, and we have contributed to her present necessities. She gave us your address for us to communicate to you her needy circumstances, so that the Chapter that her husband was a member of, could give assistance. Her husband was a member of the Grand Chapter of Georgia.

She has a son-in-law, but he is not able to do much for the old lady, as he is in bad health and cannot get work or do any work half of his time, and he has a good size family of children, and he is not able to keep them and the old lady, who lives with them, in the necessary comforts that they should have.

The old lady is about eighty years of age, and from what I can learn she is in bad circumstances.

Respectfully and fraternally yours,

JOHN C. WHITE, Secretary
Tampa Chapter, No. 3, R. A. M.

On motion, Companion Graham was requested to take up a collection, which amounted to \$34.

On motion of Companion Wessolowky, the Grand Chapter appropriated \$66.00. Total, \$100.00. The Grand Secretary was instructed to remit this amount to the widow of Companion Johnson.

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