

d: 7 Oct 1906

Newspaper article and Obituary of Thomas D. Nichols (Moravia, Iowa):

Killed on Way to Church

One of the saddest accidents that has occurred in Moravia and vicinity for a long time happened about 6:30 on last Sunday evening, when Thomas D. Nichols lost his life by being struck by a Milwaukee freight engine at the crossing on Wabash Ave., while on his way to church in company with his wife. They had started to church a little early and had intended to stop and visit a few minutes with Mrs. Hoskinson. When they came to the crossing they saw the train coming but did not think that it was as close as it was and thought they had plenty of time to get across before the train passed. Mrs. Nichols just did escape but it is thought that Mr. Nichols was struck by the cylinder on the engine as he had stepped over the last rail when struck, and one more step would of let him missed the engine. He was thrown about thirty feet, to the middle of the road, where he was picked up after the train had passed. Mrs. Nichols did not notice that the train had struck her husband, but noticed that he was not with her and supposing he had waited on the other side of the track, she waited till the train had passed. Several had seen Mr. Nichols struck and had run to his assistance but were on the other side of the track and had to wait till the train was passed, and it was not until they came up that Mrs. Nichols knew that her husband had been struck. The train crew stopped the train as soon as possible and came back and assisted the others in securing a cot and carrying Mr. Nichols to his home. He was unconscious for a few minutes but regained consciousness before they got him home, and remained so until death, which occurred about one hour later.

Mr. Nichols was one of Moravia's best citizens and before moving to Moravia a few years ago, lived on a farm about 3 miles northwest of this city, and was known by all the community as a fine christian gentleman. He was past 71 years of age and leaves besides his wife, a daughter and a son and numerous other relatives and friends to mourn his sad death. The bereaved ones have the sympathy of the entire neighborhood.

Obituary

Thomas D. Nichols was born in Christian County, Ky., April 15th, 1835. When six years of age he, with his mother, moved to Missouri, his father having died while Thomas was quite young. In the year 1862 he removed to Iowa. To his father and mother were born seven sons and two daughters, all of whom have crossed over before him and none suffered such a tragic death. He was united in marriage to Mary E. Thomas Feb. 4, 1864. To this union was born one son and one daughter, Walter F. and Rosa M. Tuttle.

Bro. Nichols was converted to God and righteousness about the year 1870, at which time he united with the M. E. church, and remained a constant and faithful member of the same until he was called to join the holy company above. He was a dilligent and constant attendant in all the devotional services of the church, a constant attendant of the Sabbath School and was especially fond of the class-meeting, where he was found each Sabbath at 10:30. His last Sabbath on earth was one of unusual happiness to him while at class-meeting. His