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An Old Citizen Gone.

Mrs. J. B. Wells died at her home a half mile east of Weston, January 3d, 1903, at 9:30 p. m.

Talitha Cumi Davis was born June 13, 1814 at Mt. Sterling, Ky. She married John Breckenridge Wells in 1832; moved to Missouri in 1833 and to Platte Puachase in 1837 at which time there were no white people in this part of Missouri except herself and husband. In 1838 her first son was born. Leander Wells was the first white child born in the Platte purchase.

Mrs. Wells named the streets of Weston and helped found the first Methodist church in Weston by contributing $100 toward it. She has been a member of the M. E. church for 73 years, having joined when she was 15 years old. She was an unusually brave woman as the following will prove:

During the civil war, the Union soldiers were camped on her farm near her home. One day a soldier shot one of her turkies in the yard. As the soldier walked into the yard to get the turkey, she leveled a shot gun at him and informed him that the fowl belonged to her and that if he attempted to take it, there would be one yankee less. The soldier walked out and Mrs. Wells took the turkey herself.

Mrs. Wells was the mother of nine children, six of whom survive her. Leander Wells of Weston, Menafee Wells of Wetmore, Kan., Mrs. Laura A. Stroup of Bowling Green, Mo., Mrs. Clay Clark of St. Joseph, Mo., Mrs. Georgie Lawrence of Columbus, Mont., and Joseph L. Wells of Denver, Colo., a large number of grandchildren and one sister, Mrs.

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Joseph Evans (widow of the late Joseph Evans, for a number of years public administrator) to mourn her departure.

The departed was generous and kindhearted, and always ready to help those who tried to help themselves. She controlled a number of negroes during slavery days and all her slaves loved instead of feared her. She was particularly kind to boys whom fortune threw in her household, and no one can better testify to her kindness than the writer.

Her departure was of the most peaceful nature. She fell asleep, and awakened no more in this land of trouble and sorrow

She has crossed to the promised land where she awaits our coming.

On Monday a large number of friends and relatives paid their last respects, and gently laid the tired body to rest in Laurel Hill cemetery at Weston, in plain view of the home where she lived so many years. J. G. H.

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