

Preston Stanley
AEHC featured person for the week of Feb 7, 2021

Preston Stanley
March 16, 1809 – February 12, 1893

Died this week in 1893 – Preston Stanley is buried in our cemetery's Section 2, Row 3, Lot 14, Space 10.

Summary of our research: Preston Stanley was born on March 16, 1809 in Campbell County, Tennessee. His parents were Garland Stanley and Eleanor (Noble) Stanley. Garland was born in Massachusetts in 1780 and died in Tennessee in 1819. Eleanor (Noble) Stanley was born in North Carolina and from there her family moved to Tennessee. Garland and Eleanor were married in Tennessee in 1808.

Garland and Eleanor Stanley had four children: Preston born in 1809, Nathan born in 1810, Sarah born in 1812, and Elizabeth born in 1817. All of their children were born in Tennessee. After Garland passed away in 1819, Eleanor and her children along with her parents David and Sarah 'Sally' (Fry) Noble moved to Fayette County, Indiana. Eleanor and her children, except Preston, are buried in cemeteries in Fayette County, Indiana.

Preston married Elizabeth (Oldham) on September 27, 1835 in Fayette County, Indiana. Elizabeth's parents, John and Nancie Oldham, came to Indiana from North Carolina through Tennessee.

Preston and Elizabeth moved to Posey Township in 1837 and remained in their home north of Arlington throughout the remainder of their days. They had eight children: Nathan N., John Jasper, William Preston, Nancy Louisa, Samuel Albert, Robert Ford, Jackson C., and Omer Franklin.

By all accounts, Preston became one of the largest landowners at the time in Rush County. He was able to leave Elizabeth and their children parcels of land, some which already included their respective homes, in his estate. His last will and testament also included annual funds for his wife. Preston passed away in 1893. He was survived by his wife and all eight of their children and their families.

Elizabeth passed away 16 years later in 1909. Elizabeth had suffered declining health and was mostly confined to her home for the last several years of her life. She was said to have a faith in God that kept her spirits up. She was considered a most kind person and never spoke ill of anyone. When she died, Elizabeth was nearly 96 years of age and at the time was the oldest person in Rush County. Six of her eight children and their families survived her.

Four of Preston and Elizabeth's children, respective spouses, and some of their grandchildren are also buried in Arlington East Hill Cemetery. The four children are – Nathan N. (Section 1, Row 1, Lot 2, Space 9); William Preston (Section 1, Row 7, Lot 50, Space 11); Robert Ford (Section 2, Row 4, Lot 14, Space 4); and Jackson C. (Section 2, Row 3, Lot 14, Space 8)

(sources: Ancestry, Find-a-Grave, and Newspaper archives)

More information about our cemetery and its history can be found at www.arlingtoneasthillcemetery.com

