

vast accumulation of knowledge gathered through more than half a century of intelligent observation and diligent study.

Major Thomas Speed left two sons, Thomas Spencer and John James, sketches of whom here follow.

THOMAS SPENCER SPEED.

Thomas Spencer Speed, the oldest son of Major Thomas Speed, was born at the old Cottage Grove homestead, near Bardstown, August 30, 1814. He lived there continuously until March, 1861, when he removed with his family to Daviess county, Ky., and there lived on a farm in the section known as Beech Woods for ten years. In the spring of 1871 he returned to Cottage Grove, where he lived until his death, March 16, 1892.

Thomas S. Speed received his academic education at St. Joseph's College, near Bardstown. After being graduated there, it was his intention to study for the Presbyterian ministry, but severe sickness, which resulted in his being a rheumatic sufferer all his life, interfered with his plans, and he continued to live at Cottage Grove, and managed his father's farm. A letter written by his uncle, Judge John Speed, to his brother, Major Thomas Speed, has been preserved, in which he says :

"Thomas will go to the pulpit where, God send, he may raise its respectability and do good. His brother, John, will, in a few years, be qualified to give pills and be set up with a few gallipots, worm dust and a lancet."

He lived a retired, quiet life, and died at the age of seventy-seven. While he always had a good and abundant home, he was not a money-making man. He owned a good many slaves, but was an Emancipationist. He was a kind master, and was glad when his own and all other slaves were freed. He was an earnest Unionist in the Civil war, and when asked about the freeing of the slaves by President Lincoln, he said he had willingly seen his two sons, who were old enough, go into the Union army where they might lose their lives, and, as he was willing to bear that loss if it came, he was certainly willing to give up all his slaves.