

Sneed  
Falling

## OBITUARY

Died at his residence, in Travis county, on Saturday, April 19 (1880) at 6 P.M., Sebron G. Sneed, in the 78th year of his age.

Thus has passed away, full of years and honors, one who, for a long period, was the Nestor of the Travis county bar. Judge Sneed was born January 15, 1802, in Green county, Kentucky. He removed at an early age to Missouri, where he was elected a colonel of militia when just 21 years old. His election at that early age to such a position by the frontiersmen of Missouri indicates their appreciation of that great personal courage, which was one of his marked characteristics.

He was married January 22, 1824, and a few months afterwards was elected in Clay county, Missouri, a justice of the peace, and was again re-elected February 3, 1825. Judge Sneed received his license to practice law in Arkansas, December 4, 1830, and was for many years the law partner of Judge W.S. Oldham in that state. On the 4th of February 1839 he was appointed register of the United States Land Office in Arkansas and on the 28th of November, 1839 was elected district judge of the Fayetteville district. He removed to Austin in 1848 and was laboriously engaged here in the practice of his profession until the beginning of the war. Since the close of the war, he has remained quietly on his farm, engaged in agricultural pursuits.

As a lawyer, few men ever lived who exercised a more potent influence over the juries of the country than did Judge Sneed. There was a charm in the strong impassioned eloquence peculiar to the man, when once thoroughly aroused, which all must remember who ever heard him. When associated with such men as Paschal, Hamilton, Webb and Oldham, he was on this account always selected to make the closing argument so soon as it was discerned that his feelings had become strongly enlisted in the case. A long life among the men of the frontier afforded him a key to all their sympathies, and thus, when denouncing wrong or pleading for innocence, he was simply irresistible before the juries of the country.

To the younger members of the bar, no one was more considerate or gentle, and on this account he was always regarded with veneration and affection by the young men just struggling for professional recognition. Many years ago the writer, then a poor young lawyer, was, on his first introduction to the bar, invited by Judge Sneed to take part in any of his cases at Georgetown, where court was in session; the judge remarking "You must make a speech -- make a speech and my client shall pay you or I will." Through all these years the memory of those kind words of cheer and sympathy linger among the pleasing recollections of the past, and now inspire this simple tribute to the memory of one of nature's great and good men.

As a husband and father he was gentle, affectionate and kind, and in all the relations of life, just and manly.

AMICUS (Pseudonym of Judge Alexander W. Terrell)

## OBITUARY



Mrs. Marinda Sneed

By request of the Church, in conference assembled, August 24th, 1878, we, the undersigned, respectfully present the following, to be placed on the record of the Church, in accordance with the resolution passed at said conference, then in session:

The death of our beloved sister, Mrs. Marinda Sneed, consort of our aged Brother, Judge Sebron G. Sneed, which took place at their late residence on Williamson Creek, Travis County, Texas, on Tuesday, the 22d of August, 1878. Sister Sneed was born in Tennessee, February 17th, 1809. Early in life her father removed to the State of Illinois, and soon after to Clay County, Missouri, where she married on the 22d of January, 1824, and removed to Fayetteville in Arkansas, where they

lived until the month of November 1848, when they removed to her late home in Texas. For 18 years Sister Sneed lived a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. But after mature reflection, she, with her husband, became satisfied that immersion was the baptism of the New Testament, and were baptized, and were among the few who joined the Pleasant Hill Baptist Church soon after it was organized.

Sister Sneed was a devoted wife, possessing all the sterling qualities of a fond mother, a kind and sincere neighbor. She was indeed a shining light in the sphere in which she moved, her sympathies so boundless, her walk so blameless, her unassuming piety and benevolent nature flooding out in such a living stream, lent a charm that made her to be beloved by all that had the happiness of knowing her.

Sister Sneed suffered many weeks with humble resignation to the will of him who doeth all things well. In her last moments the triumphs of the faith were beautifully made manifest to those who were with her, as she fell asleep in the arms of her Redeemer. Her last words were, "Lord grant that I may die -- Rest Thine Rest."

— A. R. Clake

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(Editor's note: If any of our readers have any information about the pioneer Sneeds and Grahams, please write to Miss Fannie M. Wilcox, 3907 Avenue D, Austin 5, Texas. Miss Wilcox is the daughter of Minnie Genevieve Sneed (Mrs. Nathan M. Wilcox). Her grandfather was Sebron G. Sneed, Jr., who was born in Fayetteville 1836. Her great-grandfather was Sebron G. Sneed, Sr., who was one of the first-comers to Fayetteville, lived here 18 years, was Circuit Judge and a community builder. Eight of his children were born in Fayetteville. Five of them attended Miss Sawyer's school. FLASHBACK takes pride in presenting the history of this pioneer Fayetteville family. -- WJL)