

[King, Mary H. Morgan]

Pioneer Settler of This Section Died Yesterday

Mrs. Mary H. King, one of the oldest residents of Mount Vernon, who saw this city grow from a village to a town, and thence to its present high standard, died yesterday afternoon at the home of her daughter, Mrs. George H. Dederer, 49 South Ninth Avenue. She was 78 years old.

Mrs. King was one of 12 children born to the late Caleb and Hetty V. Morgan in the old homestead on California Road in the town of Eastchester, and which still stands today. Subsequently that portion of ground where the Morgan property lies, became part of the City of Mount Vernon. The homestead was also the birthplace of Mrs. King's father as well as his father, and was one of the first places settled in Westchester County and to be devoted to farming. The Morgans were also among the first settlers here and had large tracts of farming land on which houses are now being erected to relieve the congested living conditions.

Mrs. King was born Oct. 17, 1840. Her early education was received in the old town of Eastchester schools. In those days they consisted of one-room buildings. In 1852, when the First Universalist Church was started in Mount Vernon, Mrs. King became a charter member. In 1860 she was married to Charles E. King by the Rev. T. J. [Thomas Jefferson] Sawyer, at that time pastor of the Universalist Church. For the past 49 years Mrs. King has resided at 49 North Ninth Avenue. When she moved to the Eighth Avenue house, Mount Vernon was still in its infancy and had not yet lost its farm-like appearance. But [only] a few years later, it began to take on larger proportions and gradually it reached the stage where it became a city. Mrs. King always assumed an active part with her husband in the village duties.

Mrs. King leaves her daughter, Mrs. Dederer and a sister, Mrs. Susan Starret of the Bronx.

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Transcribed on 10 Oct 2012 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY