

Heritage Obituaries

The following is a collection of heritage obituaries, as they appeared, from the late 1800s through 1920. Terri Jackson provided early research in identifying and collecting these obituaries. Archives volunteers transcribed the obituaries and Patricia Sanderson provided supplemental information.

Booey, Irwin

Death of Irwin Booey

One of the town's oldest colored residents passed away in the Hospital Sunday night in the person of Mr. Irwin William Booey. Mr. Booey was born in Toronto sixty years ago and came to Owen Sound from Walter's Falls, forty-one years ago. For many years he conducted a quarrying business on the East Hill and became well-known to local contractors with whom he always had a reputation for integrity and honesty. He was a faithful member of the B.M.E. Church. His wife predeceased him some four and a half years ago. Three sons, Wm., George and David of Owen Sound; and four daughters: Mrs. Thrower of Detroit, Mrs. Duncan of Owen Sound, Mrs. Douglas of Collingwood, and Mrs. McIntosh of Windsor survive. The funeral will be held tomorrow afternoon from the residence of his son, 550 20th St. East to Greenwood Cemetery at 2:30 o'clock. Services will be conducted by the Rev. Mr. Lewis of the B.M.E. Church.

Date of article: 13 April 1920

Source: Original source unknown.

Additional Information:

Irwin Booey was also known as Erwin Bowie/Bowey. Erwin was born in Toronto in 1856. Erwin Bowey married Emily Ann Hall on 25 January 1881 in Owen Sound, Ontario. Emily Hall was born in Owen Sound in 1859 and her parents were John Hall and Esther Ball. Erwin's father was William Henry Bowey and his mother was Catherine Campbell. In 1911 Erwin and Emily were living at 1924 8th Ave. E., Owen Sound with their son David John Bowie (born Nov. 1893), their daughter, Effie Victoria Esther Bowie (born May 1892), her husband George E. Douglas (born June 1889) and their two daughters, D. (Dorothy?) N. Douglas (born April 1908) and Edna P. Douglas (born April 1910). (Effie and George were married 8 June 1907 in Grey County.) Erwin and Emily's daughter, Hilda, married George McIntosh on 27 August 1907 in Simcoe County. William married Flossie B. Harris on 21 May 1907 in Owen Sound, Grey County.

Bryant, Charles

Death of Charles Bryant

In the death of Charles Bryant, which occurred last week in Brooke, a well-known negro character was removed. The deceased was about 80 years, and while formerly of great endurance, had become very infirm of late. Years ago, before the advent of steam power, he turned the presses of the *Advertiser*, to which he was one of the earliest subscribers, paying his subscription promptly on the day it became due. In his early days he had been in slavery, but escaped to Canada, leaving his wife and family, whom he never saw again. He was generally known by the name of "Cash-box" a name which he also gave to every person of any standing whom he addressed. Some years ago he was said to be possessed of considerable means, but squandered a good deal speculating in the Louisiana State Lottery, from which he expected to draw a fortune, and always acted in a most mysterious manner in connection with his transactions with the lottery. The most peculiar thing about his appearance was his hair, which he wore matted and enclosed in a net, always the same from year to year. The body of Charles Bryant was interred in the new Sarawak cemetery on Tuesday, being the first to be laid in the new plot.

Date of article: 4 June 1901

Source: Original source unknown, Tuesday, June 4, 1901, p. 1, col. 5

Date of death: 27 May 1901

Additional Information: Date of death from Ontario death registration. Charles Bryant married Annie Barnes on 27 December 1883 and the marriage was registered in 1884. On his death registration, his occupation is listed as labourer and his place of birth is U.S.A.

Chuckee, William

Died: William Chuckee, better known as Napoleon, died at his home on Water street on Wednesday, of pneumonia. He has resided here for many years, and was always an inoffensive negro. The funeral took place yesterday.

Date of article: 29 March 1901

Source: *Owen Sound Advertiser*, Friday, March 29, 1901, p.1, col. 4

Date of death: 26 March 1901, Owen Sound

Additional Information: Date of death from Ontario death registration, born Toronto, Ontario, in 1846. Occupation listed as a labourer, and his age as 55.

Clayburn, Henry

DIED AT 110 YEARS

The Last of the Glenelg Negro Colony has Passed Over to the Great Majority

Henry Clayburn, a colored man, who ran away from slavery in 1842 at the age of forty-five years, died on Tuesday, the 4th inst. at Williamsford, and on account of the storm interment was prevented until Monday last when the remains were laid to rest at the Rocky burying ground. The deceased was the last of a number of negroes who left Virginia at the same time and settled as a colony in the townships of Glenelg and Bentinck about a mile north of Rocky Saugeen, four miles north of this town. He was the first settler in the township of Glenelg, and by his death the oldest settler now living in the township is Mrs. Nathan Dunsmore, who came in 1843 when the Hunter family first settled. The next oldest resident pioneer is Mr. James Edge, who settled in 1844. Mr. Clayburn claimed to be born in 1796, but some of the older settlers think he was about two years younger, that is 110 at the time of his death. Mr. Edge, who knew him since 1844, has very little doubt of his being 112 as Clayburn himself claimed. Mr. Nathan Dunsmore, who lived beside him for sixty years, regarded him as a good neighbour, and this opinion is borne out by all who knew him as such. He was fond of fishing and trapping, and seemed contented and happy when he had enough to eat and wear. He was always at home telling stories of the slavery days. Only two or three years ago he was a familiar figure in this town, but since 1904, when he moved to Williamsford, he has not been around. He leaves no relatives.

Source: Original source unknown.

Additional Information: In 1871 Henry J. Clayburn lived in Glenelg Township and his date of birth was listed as 1822 in the United States. His wife, Mary Ann, was listed as born in 1821 in the United States. There are also two sons listed, John & James Hall. By 1881 Henry was then 70 years old - born in 1811 in the United States. His wife Mary was then 61 - born in 1820 in the United States. Their sons, John, born in Ontario in 1862, and James, born in 1865 in Ontario, are now "Clayburn". In the 1901 Census, Henry J. Clayborn was born 10 September 1821 in the United States and was single. His year of immigration was listed as 1837. His neighbour was Nathan Dunsmore. George R. Roy Clayburn, now listed as son, was born 14 June 1853 in Ontario.

Cubbin, George H.

Died: George H. Cubbin, bookkeeper for Roy's Brewery, Belleville, who had been absent from business for two days, was on Friday afternoon found dead in his room, with the door locked and windows and ventilator closed and two gas jets open. The case is believed to be one of suicide. The deceased was 35 years of age, unmarried and colored.

Date of article: 5 July 1901

Source: Original source unknown, Friday, July 5, 1901, p.3, col. 3

Date of death: 27 June 1901

Additional Information: Ontario Death Registration: Died 27 June 1901, County of Hastings, Belleville, Ontario

Derricks, Ben

Died: Ben Derricks

Dead: Ben Derricks, an old colored man who lived in Owen Sound about half a century ago, and for many years at Williamsford, died recently at an age variously estimated at from 86 to 114 years. He was a jockey and a great admirer of horses, and will be remembered by many old residents of the town. It is now many years since he removed to the Sauble, now known as Williamsford. The old man has received many newspaper notices, and his likeness was also published a couple of years ago in the Globe. His mode of living was filthy in the extreme, and he is said to have eaten snakes and toads, and the carcasses of animals which had died. He lived in an old shack east of the village. On his feet he usually wore a bundle of rags, and his tragic end was partly attributable to this method of dressing his feet. It is supposed that while asleep in his cabin his feet covering caught fire from the burning fagots in the centre of the floor, and his legs and feet were so badly burned that he was unable to go about as usual, and when found by some of the neighbors, who forced the door of his cabin open he was far gone and did not long survive.

Date of article: 29 August 1902

Source: Original source unknown, Friday, Aug. 29, 1902, p.1, col. 3

Additional Information: In 1881 Benjamin Derricks was living in Holland Centre, Grey North and his birth was stated as 1828 in the United States. He was a 53 year old widower and his occupation was listed as a plasterer.

Earll, Samuel

Death of Samuel Earll

Mr. Samuel Earll, a former well-known resident of Holland Township passed away this morning in the Hospital. He was born in Chatsworth seventy-three years ago and until three years ago was a farmer in Holland Township. Three years ago he gave up farming and moved to Owen Sound where he has resided since on 3rd Ave. East near Keenan's Sawmill. He was a bachelor and leaves two brothers, Joshua and Solomon Earll, both of Owen Sound; and two sisters, Mrs. Jemima Bowie, of the East Hill, and Mrs. Louisa Woods, also of the East Hill.

The funeral will be held tomorrow afternoon to Greenwood Cemetery at 2 o'clock. Services will be conducted by Rev. D. M. Lewis of the B.M.S. [as it appears] Church of which the deceased was a regular attendant.

Date of article: 5 March 1920

Source: Original source unknown.

Additional Information: Samuel Earll was born in Holland Township in 1847. He died at the G & M Hospital in Owen Sound. His cause of death was listed as influenza. According to his death registration, he was to be buried in Holland Centre, 6 March 1920. His father was Elias Earll, born in Kentucky, U.S.A, and his mother was Louisa Douglas born in Philadelphia, U.S.A.

Died

EARLL – At the General and Marine Hospital, on Friday, March 5th, Samuel Earll, aged 73, of 1797 8th Ave. E. The funeral will be held from the undertaking parlors of Mr. C. H. Fulton, 10th St. E., on Saturday, March 6th, at three o'clock. Services at 2:30.

Date of article: 1920

Source: Original source unknown.

Additional Information: Please see above.

Gordon, Wm.

Found Dead on the Pottawatamie: Saturday morning as Geo. Lee, watchmaker, who resides in Brooke, was walking along the G. T. R. track to his work, he found the body of Wm. Gordon, an old colored man and also a resident of the suburban village, lying on the ice under the railway over the Pottawatamie. He notified Geo. Webb, who called Coroner Allan Cameron's attention to the fact. Constable C. C. Pearce was dispatched to look after the body, and it was removed to the old fire hall. There was every evidence that the deceased, while on his way home the night previous, decided that he could not safely cross the bridge. Saturday night, an inquest was held by Coroner Cameron in the Police Court when evidence was taken which led to no other conclusion but that death was due to enfeebled health and exposure. The body was lying near the edge of the ice and looked as if deceased had crossed on the ice instead of going over the bridge. Dr. C. E. Barnhart gave evidence to having treated the deceased for cardiac asthma and heart affection with temporary improvement; had examined the body but did not find any appearance of foul play; the cause of death would be that of extreme prostration and enfeeblement of vitality at his age. The jury brought in a verdict in accordance with Dr. Barnhart's evidence. Gordon was one of the town's oldest residents, having come here early in the fifties. He married the widow of his former master, a white woman, through whom he received the rental of some property in England, amounting to about \$160 a year. This will now go to the daughter of his wife, who is a respectable resident of an adjoining township. For some time Gordon has been living an irregular life, the money received being soon spent. He has been in the habit of begging amongst the citizens. By a second marriage he has two sons, both

respectable people, and it was from the residence of one of these that the funeral took place on Monday.

Date of article: 19 December 1895

Source: Bruce & Grey Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society, Index to Births, Marriages & Deaths, *The Times*, Owen Sound, Jan. 3, 1895 - Dec. 26, 1895, Jan. 2, 1896 - Dec. 31, 1896, Thursday, Dec. 19, 1895 p. 5, col. 3

Date of death: 14 December 1895

Additional Information: William Gordon was born in 1808 in the U.S.A. He died 14 December 1895. His occupation was listed as a labourer.

Jackson, Marie

Died: An old colored woman named Marie Jackson, died in the gaol on Wednesday night. She was 88 years old, and was there because she had no other place to go and the county had no house of refuge for her except the gaol. At regular intervals for the past while she was driven to the police court and received a fresh sentence.

Date of article: 5 February 1901

Source: *Owen Sound Advertiser*, Tuesday, Feb 5, 1901, p. 1, col. 4

Date of death: 30 January 1901, Owen Sound

Additional Information: Date of death from the Ontario death registration. Born: 1813 in Michigan, U.S.A. Her name was listed as Maria Jackson on the death registration. Cause of death: old age. Verdict: 10 days. She was listed as a widow.

Johnson, Christopher J.

Died: Chris. Johnson

Dead: An old familiar figure that will be missed on Owen Sound streets will be that of Christopher J. Johnson, an old colored man who went by a dozen or more aliases gratuitously bestowed by a too familiar public. Chris., as he was commonly known, died at his home, Bay street, on Monday. He had been in precarious health for some months, but was able to be occasionally out on the street, and be subjected to the attention of his various friends who were invariably solicited to "enumerate" to his necessity by a small contribution. Chris came to Owen Sound in the early sixties with the late J. P. Coulson. After a short time he took up land in a neighboring township where he bid to become by his industry a prosperous farmer. But his wife, he claimed, was adverse to rural life, and he had to come to town. He was fairly well to do at one time, but sickness in his family, the death of his old father in Pennsylvania and other reverses left him in late years dependent largely on the earning of his wife, who has filled the position as cook

at the Comely House for many years. His many eccentricities included a ready faculty of combining profanity with the semblance of scriptural texts. He enjoyed the distinction of being one of the widest known of our citizens, and former residents scattered all over the continent will readily recognize his name, which in newspaper notices was elongated to Christopher Hannibal Juniper James Pepper-Sauce Johnson, gentleman kalsomining artist - and which he most heartily enjoyed. Two sons, Jesse, a well-known cook, and William, a laborer, who resides in Cleveland, and one daughter, Rose, survive out of a large family. He was a good-natured old soul, and will be missed much more than many a more distinguished character.

Source: Bruce & Grey Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society, Births, Marriages & Deaths, Owen Sound, *The Times*, Jan. 26 – Dec. 28, 1899, Mar. 8 – Nov. 15, 1900, *The Sun*, Feb. 6 – Apr. 27, 1900, p. 2, col. 6.

Date of death: 3 September 1900

Additional Information: Ontario Death Registration: date of death, 3 September 1900, Owen Sound. Born: 1816 in the United States. Occupation listed as gentleman.

Johnston, Jeremiah F.

Died in Jail:

On Friday Jeremiah F. Johnston, a colored man from Artemesia township, aged sixty-seven, died in jail. The old man was one of the winter refugees and was committed on October 29th for one month as a vagrant. After being out a few weeks he was committed again from Markdale on December 23rd on a similar charge. The cause of death as given by the jail surgeon, Dr. T. H. Middlebro, is dropsy. The statutory inquest was held by Dr. Allan Cameron, coroner, the jury being composed of Messrs. A. C. Hannah, foreman, George Maron, A. J. Creighton, J. C. Crane, M. W. McKenna, J. J. Doyle, F. E. Book, F. C. Hassel, John Gilchrist, D. McArthur, James Paterson, John Temple, James J. Mills. The jury viewed the body in the corridor and rendered a verdict in accordance with the jail surgeon's statement.

Date of article: 17 February 1905

Source: *Owen Sound Advertiser*, Friday, February, 17, 1905 p. 5, col. 5

Date of death: 15 February 1905

Additional Information: The date of death was obtained from Ontario Death Registration. Born: 1838 in the United States.

Miller, Thomas

Death of Mr. Thomas Miller

One of the oldest and most widely known of Owen Sound's residents was claimed by death on Tuesday afternoon when Mr. Thos. Miller (colored) answered the summons. Mr. Miller had been ill for about two months and a half and only his wonderful constitution sustained him so long against the afflictions evident from his very advanced age _____. At the time of his death he was in his ninety ninth year. Truly Mr. Miller was a wonderful man. A few months previous to his death he was able to come down town and was a familiar figure on the streets, being greeted with a kind word, a nod and smile, by young and old alike. Mr. Miller has been a resident here for the past sixty two years. He was born in Washington County, State of Maryland, ninety nine years ago. He was born free, for his mother who had been a slave was made a free woman by her master, a man named Barnes, before Mr. Miller's birth. Consequently, though he was a colored man he was free in that country where slavery was an accepted condition. Growing up among his colored brethren, Mr. Miller worked and toiled with them, but always as a free man and for wages, while those with whom he labored were slaves. Finally Mr. Miller's father finding the condition of affairs intolerable decided to leave the country and taking his family fled to the north, arriving after many vicissitudes of fortune at Owen Sound where there was a large colored colony at that time. Since then Mr. Miller has been connected with every effort for the betterment of the condition of the colored population. He was a skilled and faithful workman too, and was thoroughly trustworthy. He will be remembered, however, more particularly for his labours in connection with the spiritual welfare of his compatriots. He was instrumental in having the first services for the colored people held here. These at first were held in private houses, but later a building was secured near the present S.A. [Salvation Army] Barracks, and when this was found to be inadequate, Mr. Miller was chiefly instrumental in the building of the old B.M.E. Church on what is now Second Avenue East. Here he was the life of the congregation. He conducted services year after year and was a great factor in raising and sustaining the spiritual standard of Owen Sound's colored people. Surviving him are four sons and five daughters as follows; Stephen, Buffalo, N.Y.; Joshua, Hamilton; George and William in Owen Sound; Mrs. George Grant, St. Catharines; Mrs. Winelibeck [? likely Woodbeck], Clyde, N.Y.; Mrs. R. Barton, Ashbury Park, N.J.; Mrs. W. Burton and Mrs. Charles Brown, Owen Sound. The funeral took place this afternoon to Greenwood cemetery from the B.M.E. Church Eleventh street west. The services were conducted by Rev. Mr. Wright, pastor of the B.M.E. Church here. The body was removed to the church from the home of Mr. Miller's son-in-law, Mr. G. Brown, 146 Second Ave. east with whom the deceased had been residing for some time. The pall bearers were Messrs. Wm. Harris, J. Green, J. Johnston, W. Johnston, A. Douglas and T. Green.

Date of article: 19 October 1911

Source: *Owen Sound Times*, October 19, 1911

**Additional
Information:**



976.020.020
Thomas Henry Miller
Grey Roots Archival Collection

Thomas Henry Miller was born in 1811 in Maryland, United States and died 17 October 1911 in Owen Sound. His father was Henry Miller (born 1792 in Maryland, United States, and died May 1869 in Grey County). His mother was Priscilla (born 1789 in Maryland, United States). He had a sister Catherine (born about 1821 in Maryland and died 11 September 1886 in Owen Sound) and a sister Rachel (born about 1825 in Maryland). At the time of his death he was widowed and his occupation was listed as Minister & Elder of the B.M.E. Church. He married Sarah Ann Broadly about 1855 in Owen Sound. She was born in 1837 in the United States and died 6 November 1890 in Owen Sound. They had 8 daughters; [that I found] Josephine (born 1856 and died 2 February 1873 in Owen Sound), Priscella (born about 1856 and died 25 August 1874 in Owen Sound), Charlotte (born about 1860), Julia (born about 1866 and died 14 September 1939 in Ontario), Mary (born January 1869), Martha J. (born 1871), Celeste (born 1872 and died 15 June 1933 in Owen Sound), Rachel (born 1874 and died in Boston, United States), and five sons; Stephen Henry Miller (born 1858), Joshua (born 1864), Frederick (born 1877), William Thomas (born 1878 and died 2 February 1951 Owen Sound), and George Miller (born 1881). All of the children were born in Owen Sound.

Molock, Charles

Death of Charles Molock – 1910

After an illness of about three months, Mr. Charles Molock died on Sunday July 10th at the residence of his father, Mr. Francis Molock, 11th St. West. Deceased took ill in Chicago, and was nursed during his illness by his sister, Miss Mattie, who came from Indiana for that purpose. Deceased is survived by his father, five brothers and two sisters. He was accompanied from Chicago by his brother George, and at the funeral which took place on the 13th instant, there were also present Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Molock of Detroit, Mr. George Molock of Collingwood, & Mr. and Mrs. Henry Molock of Detroit. Floral tributes from many friends were placed on the casket of the deceased.

Source: Original source unknown.

**Additional
Information:**

Charles was born 14 June 1871 to Francis (born 10 May 1836 in the United States and died 8 October 1910 in Owen Sound) and Mary Ann Rebeka Wilson (born 7 January 1847 in Lobert County, State of Maryland, United States and died 17 May 1905 in Owen Sound). In 1901 he was living in Owen Sound and had five brothers; John Henry (born 14 July 1865 and died 26 January 1928 in Essex County; John married Rosa Bella Scott 25 August 1907 in Essex County.), William (born 28 May 1863), George Wesley (born 8 May 1870 and died 6 February 1938 in Owen Sound; George married Matilda Leburdis 7 May 1907 in Simcoe County), Francis (born 3 June 1873 and died 12 September 1921 in Owen Sound), and Hugh (born 20 December 1885), and three sisters; Maggie (born 24 September 1876), Martha (born 14 November 1877) and Emily Elizabeth (born

18 October 1882). All the children were born in Ontario. Charles Molock's father, Francis, married Sarah Allen 19 May 1907 in Owen Sound after the death of his first wife in 1905.

Patterson, Edward

Died: Mr. Edward Patterson, colored, the old bus driver between the hotels, trains and boats in the early days, died at his home on River street south on Friday last. Ned was well known here by everyone and was a trustworthy and honest man. He left here some twenty-five years ago, and went to reside on his farm near Flesherton, but returned here about five years ago. The deceased was aged 79 years, and his wife survives him. The remains were interred in Greenwood yesterday.

Source: Bruce & Grey Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society, *Owen Sound Advertiser*, Jan 6, 1903-Dec. 30, 1904, Births, Marriages & Deaths

Date of death: 12 February 1904

Additional Information: Date of death is from the Ontario Death Registrations. Mr. Patterson was born in 1825 in Maryland, U.S.A.

Ringo, Richard

Death of Richard Ringo

In the miserable hovel on the pleasure grounds known for years as Squatter Hall's shack, Richard Ringo breathed his last on Sunday morning. He had long been a well known character among residents of the town, and was aged about 65 years. His removal to the hospital was under consideration by the authorities when the end came. With his death it is expected that the parties still remaining on the pleasure grounds will soon be all away and the old shack in which they exist will follow the fate of its companion building, which has been torn down some time lately.

Source: Original source unknown; found in Bruce & Grey Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society Surname Collection.

Date of death: 29 March 1908

Additional Information: Richard Ringo was born 19 January 1849 in Baltimore, U.S.A. according to the 1901 Owen Sound Census. His death record indicates he was born in 1843. His occupation was listed as labourer and his cause of death was alcoholism.

Ringo, William

Was Formerly a Slave

The death of Mr. William Ringo a highly respected colored man, who has long been a

resident of the town, took place on Friday. The deceased was injured about nine years ago by falling from a tree in the late ex-chief of police Egerton's orchard while picking fruit and had never fully recovered from the injury. He also suffered from Asthma, and lately from bronchial trouble. He was born in Maryland, and in early life lived in slavery from which he escaped by running away when about twenty years of age. His wife, who predeceased him only about two weeks ago, had never been a slave. The family consists of seven children, only two of whom live in Canada. The funeral took place yesterday.

Source: Original source unknown; found in Bruce & Grey Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society Surname Collection.

Date of death: 11 March 1904

Additional Information: Date of death from the Ontario Death Registration. According to the 1901 Owen Sound Census, he was born on 25 May 1820 in Virginia, U.S.A. His death record indicates that he was 81 at the time of his death and his occupation was listed as baker. William's wife died 25 February 1904 at the age of 62 years.

Smith, Lee Anderson

WELL KNOWN LAKE CHEF DIED SATURDAY

L. A. Smith ill for Some Time High Blood Pressure

As a result of a six months' illness of high blood pressure, Lee Anderson Smith, a well known resident of Owen Sound, and widely known about the Great Lakes, passed away at his home, 896 11th street east, on Saturday night about eleven o'clock. He had been ill of high blood pressure for about two years but it was only in July that he was forced to give up his work as chef on the C.L. Str. Edmonton, and came to be home here in an effort to regain health.

He was born in the township Amaranth, County of Dufferin, nearly forty-eight years ago, and he came to Owen Sound in 1885. Since that time Owen Sound has been his home although he spent his summers on the lakes. He was well known as the chef on various steamers, owned by the Dominion Transportation Co., the Playfair Line, and the Canada Steamship Line. His many friends will receive the news of his death with regret.

He is survived by his wife and four children. Mrs. Fred Wilson, Toronto, Mrs. Morton Scott, of Owen Sound, and Douglass and Valerie, home. There is also one brother Mr. J. Israel Smith, of Owen Sound.

The late Mr. Smith was a consistent member of the B.M.E. Church. The funeral is to be held on Tuesday afternoon from his late residence to Greenwood cemetery. R. E. A. Richardson will conduct the service at the home at 2.30 o'clock.

Source: Original source unknown.

Stephens, George

Died suddenly: George Stephens, the well-known colored porter of the G. T. R. [Grand Trunk Railway], who for the past five years has been in charge of the Grand Trunk private car used by the successive superintendents of the middle division, died suddenly Friday night in Toronto. Stephens was out over the road yesterday with Superintendent Jones as far as London and Port Dover, returning to his home last night about ten o'clock. Soon after reaching home he began playing for a few minutes with his little child. Shortly after he took ill, and died in about ten minutes. He had suffered from a weak heart for some time past, but had not complained yesterday. Stephens was a highly respected employee. He came from Hannibal, Missouri, at the time General Manager Hays came to Canada. To-day his body was sent to his former home in Hannibal. As a token of the respect in which he was held the officials and his fellow employees at Toronto took up a subscription for a large wreath of flowers in the form of a crescent, which accompanied the remains to their southern home. The deceased was about 45 years of age, and leaves a widow and one child.

Date of article: 16 July 1901

Source: Original source unknown, Tuesday, July 16, 1901 p. 2, col. 1

Date of death: 10 July 1901

Additional Information: Died 10 July 1901, Toronto, York County, Ontario. George Stephens' death is registered as George Franklyn Stevens. He was born in 1864 and his occupation was listed as Cook. His death registration indicates that he was 37 years old.