

Prof. James C. Watson died at Madison, Nov. 23d, in his forty-third year. He was born in Southwold, in now Elgin County, Canada West, Jan. 28th, 1838. He was educated at Michigan University, serving in his junior and senior years as assistant professor of astronomy, and graduating with high honors. In 1859, he was made full professor of astronomy; and, in 1860, he was chosen director of the observatory, and professor of physics and mathematics. He at once took the front rank of American astronomers, contributing freely to American and foreign astronomical journals; and, in 1860, he issued his *Popular Treatise on Comets*, which he subsequently almost entirely rewrote. During the first decade of his directorship, Prof. Watson discovered nineteen asteroids, for which, in 1870, he received the gold medal of the French Academy of Science. In 1868, he published his *Theoretical Astronomy*, which has since been used as a text-book in most of the colleges of this country, while translations have been extensively adopted in French and German universities. In 1869, he went to Iowa to observe an eclipse of the sun, and the following year on a similar service to Sicily; and, in 1874, he went to China, at the head of the U. S. expedition to observe the transit of Venus. Returning, he visited Egypt. In 1878, he observed the eclipse of the sun, from the government station in the Rocky Mountains. Gov. Washburn, and the regents of the Wisconsin University, induced him to accept the directorship of the Washburn Observatory. Removing to Madison in July, 1879, he had hardly a fitting opportunity of adding to his fame in the field of astronomical science when he was suddenly summoned to the higher life, where he can behold God's wondrous works, without telescopes or instruments, in all their grandeur and glory.

James W. Churchill died at Lake Mills, Nov. 28th, in the sixty-seventh year of his age. Born in Genesee County, N. Y., April 8th, 1814, he settled at Lake Mills in 1853, where he was an honored and useful citizen, and the father of Mrs. J. L. Dudley, of Milwaukee, and Mrs. J. H. Keyes, of Watertown.

Hon. Julius P. Atwood died at Denver, Colorado, Nov. 30th, at the age of about fifty-five years. He was a native of Vermont, and came to Wisconsin in 1851, in company with Judge L. B. Vilas. He practiced law in Madison, filled a vacancy as county judge in 1854, and was an unsuccessful candidate for mayor of Madison, and afterwards for associate justice of the supreme court. Having been educated at Capt. Patridge's Military Institution, Norwich University, Vt., he was appointed Lieut.-colonel of the Sixth regiment, but resigned on account of poor health a few months after. Residing subsequently in Chicago, he was there an unsuccessful candidate for a judicial position; he afterwards removed to Grand Rapids, Mich., and still later to Deadwood, in the Black Hills country, where he became a prominent member of the legal profession. He was a man of fine ability, a good lawyer, and a popular public speaker.

Hiram Rust, a pioneer of Monroe, Wis., died in that place, Dec. 10th, at the age of seventy-seven years.