

raised from childhood her nephew, James Breckinridge Speed, son of her brother William, who has become one of the most prominent and successful business men of Louisville.

She is still living, and has resided all her life in Louisville and vicinity, and is now eighty-one years old. She has always enjoyed the warmest love of all who knew her. A woman of the finest intelligence and judgment, a warm heart and quick sympathies, she has exerted the best influence in her own family and a wide circle of friends.

JAMES SPEED (ATTORNEY-GENERAL).

James Speed, son of Judge John Speed, was born March 11, 1812, at the Farmington homestead, five miles from Louisville, on the road leading to Bardstown. He attended St. Joseph's College at Bardstown, when he was graduated at sixteen years of age. He then wrote in the clerk's office at Louisville and afterward attended the law school at Transylvania, from which he was graduated, 1833, being twenty-one years old. He very soon became a successful practicing lawyer, his first partnership being with Henry Pirtle, afterward the well-known Chancellor Pirtle. He devoted himself closely to his practice and became a leading and widely known lawyer. He also did his duty as a public spirited citizen. He served the city of Louisville in the General Council, the State in both branches of the Legislature, the country in military appointment and in the Cabinet. He bore a part in many public enterprises of Louisville. In 1847 he was a member of the Lower House of the State Legislature. From 1861 to 1863 he was in the State Senate. He was an earnest and active friend of the Union cause during the Civil war, and while in the State Senate he was a recognized leader. The proposition made by the general Government to pay the owners of slaves in Kentucky for their slaves was supported by him alone. In his speech on that subject he took the ground that slavery was an evil and ought to be abolished, and that it would be, and that Kentucky ought to accept the proposition. He stated in after years that while no one agreed