Bunceton (Missouri) Weekly Eagle, page 1, 13 November 1914 (from newspaper collection, Newspaper Library, State Historical Society of Missouri)

SUDDEN DEATH OF T. EMANUEL STEPHENS

Stricken With Apoplexy Sunday Morning – Died 14 Hours Later

HAD LIVED IN KANSAS CITY 7 YEARS

Body Brought to Old Home for Interment - Leaves Wife and Four Children

Back to the scenes of his childhood and to the many friends of yore, there was brought to Bunceton Tuesday afternoon the remains of Thomas Emanuel Stephens, to be laid to rest in the city cemetery and within near sight of the homestead where he was born and reared.

Mr. Stephens, who moved from Bunceton to Kansas City seven years ago, was stricken with apoplexy Sunday morning at 1:15, at his home, 110 North Lawn, in that city. He rallied and regained consciousness, but two hours later suffered another attack and at 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon was stricken for the third time and died thirty minutes later.

Funeral services, conducted by Rev. Scrivner, pastor, of the Budd Park Christian church, of Kansas City, were held at the family home Monday afternoon at 2:30. The body, accompanied by all the members of the family, was brought to Bunceton Tuesday afternoon, and interment was in the family lot at the Bunceton cemetery, services at the grave conducted by Rev. J. W. Mitchell, pastor of the Bunceton Presbyterian church.

Mr. Stephens, who was a son of the late W. H. Stephens and wife, was born on the old Stephens homestead, one mile northwest of Bunceton, on September 11, 1855, being 59 years, 1 month and 27 days old at the time of his death. On April 5, 1882, he was united in marriage with Miss Rebecca Dickson, of California, Mo. To this union were born four children, all of whom, with the wife and mother survive him. They are Mrs. Lee C. Wardell, of Lindsborg, Kans.; Mrs. W. Speed Mills, Hayden C. and W. M. Stephens, of Kansas City. He also leaves two brothers, W. L. Stephens, of Versailles, and R. A. Stephens, of Warsaw.

Mr. Stephens grew to manhood here and spent practically all his life in this community until moving to Kansas City seven years ago. At the time of his death, he was a city salesman for a cigar company. When a young man he learned the blacksmith trade and for a while conducted a shop just east of where the livery stable now stands. He later engaged in the restaurant business for a short time, after which he bought a drug store here and was engaged in the drug business for 17 or 18 years.

He was converted when a young man and at the time of his death was a member of the Bunceton Christian church, where his membership had been for many years.

He was a big-hearted, generous and genial man – one who had many friends to whom the news of his sudden death brought real sorrow. Kindhearted and sympathetic, he was held in high esteem by those who knew him best. A good husband and a loving and indulgent father, his sudden passing is a crushing blow to his devoted wife and children, and to them we extend sincere sympathy.

Bill Scroggin Reply to: itcscrog@aol.com