

DEATH OF W. C. PRETTYMAN.

A Retired Shipbuilder of Milton Succumbed to the Grip in Philadelphia.

William C. Prettyman, a retired shipbuilder of Milton, this state, died Monday at the residence of his son-in-law Dr. W. Joseph Hearn, No. 1120 Walnut street, Philadelphia, after a short illness of the grip. Mr. Prettyman, as was his custom for years, was spending the winter with his son-in-law, when he contracted a cold, and, because of his advanced age, 85 years, was unable to resist the attack.

Mr. Prettyman was born in Milton, and early in life evinced a liking for the shipbuilding trade. To further his ambition he traveled to Cincinnati, and, after mastering the art of ship construction, he journeyed to the Mississippi, where he readily found employment. He journeyed from one place to another building river craft and superintending their construction until shortly before the outbreak of the War of the Rebellion he returned to Delaware and in his native town engaged in the building of vessels for the coastwise trade. During the war he accumulated a considerable sum of money in boat building, and his "Delaware oak" vessels became widely and favorably known. Many of the craft built by him were turned over to deserving captains to run until they could purchase them outright. In this way Mr. Prettyman is said to have started on the road to fortune many men who today are wealthy vessel owners. He retired soon after the close of the war. He was an active member of the Milton Methodist Church. A widow, four children, 14 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren survive him.