

trace leading from Danville station to Harrod's station, about four miles from the former place. He made that his home, and died there and was buried there. The graveyard is still preserved, but his grave can not be distinguished.

When he moved to Kentucky in the fall of 1782, his family consisted of himself and wife and six children, as follows :

1. Thomas, aged fourteen, born October 25, 1768.
2. Mary, aged twelve, born June 8, 1770
3. John, aged ten, born May 17, 1772.
4. Elizabeth, } twins, aged eight, born February 7, 1774.
5. James, }
6. Henry, aged five, born August 15, 1777.
7. Julia, infant, who died the following year.

He also took with him a number of slaves. The move was from Charlotte Court House, Caroline county, Va., over the "Wilderness Road," which led through the mountains of Virginia to Cumberland Gap, and from thence into the level lands of Kentucky by way of Rockcastle, Crab Orchard and Danville. There were but few inhabitants in Kentucky at that time, the settlements having begun only seven years before, and it was not until 1783 that immigration in large numbers commenced. The mode of travel was on horseback and walking; no vehicle could at that time pass over the wilderness trace. The country was a wilderness, with no accommodations, and infested with Indians.

Captain James Speed was well educated, had strong business sense, and great energy. He had a large, well-developed head, and his face showed intelligence, resolution and capacity. He had ready wit, wrote well, and was fond of writing humorous poetry. Some of his lines found their way into the early school-books printed in Kentucky. A man named Robert Rankin sent to him one spring for some turnip seed. The seed were furnished, but with them the following rhymes :

" You lazy Bob, myself I rob,
To send you turnip seed;
Another year, take better care,
And do not beg from Speed."