

WELL KNOWN PENNSYLVANIA CLERIC DIES

Rev. Thomas M. Thomas Of Chester Passes Away At 71

CHESTER, Pa., Jan. 6—
Rev. Thomas M. Thomas, of
1402 West Third street, a re-
tired Presbyterian minister of this
city, died Thursday, December 29,
in the Chester hospital after an ill-
ness of eleven days.

Rev. Thomas, who was 71 years
old, suffered a broken left leg on
Dec. 17 when he



Rev. Thomas

fell in his home.

At the time he
was injured he
was preparing to
go to Cheyney
to attend the
25th anniver-
sary celebra-
tion being held
in honor of Doctor
Leslie Pinckney
Hill, president
of the Cheyney
Teachers' col-
lege, who has
been its presi-

dent for 13 years since becoming
connected with the college.

Following the injury both pneu-
monia and a stroke developed. He
was a former trustee of the col-
lege.

He was born in Orangeburg, S.
C., where he was educated in its
public schools and the Lincoln uni-
versity at Lincoln university, Ches-
ter county, where he received his
A. B. degree in 1895 and his degree
in theology in 1898.

His first charge after graduation
from the university was in this city
where he founded the Fifth Pres-
byterian church, the only Race
Presbyterian church in Delaware
county, and which he served contin-
uously as its pastor until June
of this year when he retired, a term
of 40 years.

He was a member of the Minis-
ters Alliance and the Chester Pres-
bytery. During his tenure as pastor
of the church, he built up the con-
gregation to 150 members. He was
also the oldest Race preacher in
length of service in Delaware coun-
ty.

Since coming to this city, Rev.
Thomas took an interest in the ad-
vancement of the Race. At one
time he conducted a trade school
in the 1800 block of West Third
street where many were taught me-
chanical trades. He also conducted
a printing shop at one time in the
West End.

Rev. Thomas was a classmate of
Robert S. Abbott, owner and pub-
lisher of the Chicago Defender at
Claflin university in South Caro-
lina.

His survivors are his widow, Mrs.
Mary B. Thomas, who before her
marriage was Miss Mary B. Nugent,
a member of one of Chester's older
families. A son, Richard M. Thom-
as; one sister, Mrs. Ackline Shaw,
and a nephew, Joseph Daniels of
this city, also survive.