JOHN WESLEY POWELL.

John Wesley Powell was born March 24, 1834, at Mount Morris, New York. He died September 23, 1902, at his summer home in Haven, Maine. He was married in 1862 to Emma Dean, of Detroit. His wife and daughter, an only child, survive him.

His parents were English, having reached this country only a few months before his birth. His father was a Methodist preacher and soon removed from New York, living successively in Ohio, Wisconsin and Illinois. His father’s occupation took him much from home, and upon the son, while yet a boy, devolved the duty of conducting the farm from which the family derived its principal support. Powell’s early schooling was that ordinarily obtainable in a rural community. His scientific bent was acquired by association with an old man by the name of Crookham, and studies in natural history were begun at an early age. His later education was largely independent of schools, but he attended Jacksonville College for a short time, and was at Oberlin two years pursuing a special course. In early manhood he supported himself by teaching, being at the same time a hard student and pursuing natural history studies with enthusiasm. He traversed portions of Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa and Missouri on foot. He made a voyage of the Mississippi River