

## ELIJAH LITTLE.

Elijah Little was born near Hacketts town, N. J., May 23, 1823, and died in Arlington, Ill., November 25, 1905. He was eighty-two years and six months old at his death. He came to his grave in full age like as a shock of grain cometh in its season.

In the fall of 1846 with his young wife, whose maiden name was Elizabeth H. Smith, to whom he had been married in June of that same year, he started west to find land where he might build himself a home and bring up a family. He traveled a little by stage, and mostly by water down the Ohio and up the Mississippi river to St. Louis. There he tarried a few months while he looked for land for a farm. But not being satisfied with the soil he came on up the father of waters to LaSalle, Ill. There he left the river and came by stage into Bureau county, to the farm where he lived for fifty eight years and from which he passed on last Saturday to a land that is fairer than day. The county at that time was one vast rolling prairie interspersed with groves and watered with sparkling streams. The settlers were few and scattered. The only town of any size was Dixon, where the Government land offices were located and to which he had to go to secure title to his land. There were no railroads here then. The school and church privileges were very meager if there were any at all. The home was about the only place for mental, moral and spiritual training. The wild deer roamed over the paths where now the school children run and play. And the howling wolves made

the nights hideous with their cries. The wild geese, turkeys, ducks, chickens, quail and other wild fowl swarmed in multitudes. Amid such surroundings Mr. Little grew up in close touch with nature and with nature's God. He saw the vast prairies transformed into fruitful farms and the wild places blossom as the rose. And he did his full share to bring about this transformation. He kept pace with progress and aided in the advancement of civilization. He was a leader and a light among the people. He was a Christian, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit. In 1866 he was converted while in attendance at the Troy Grove Methodist camp meeting. At the same time his eldest daughter Sarah, was converted. He immediately united with the Methodist Episcopal Church and ever afterward lived a devoted, enthusiastic Christian life.

There were eleven children born from this union. One, Thomas, died in infancy and ten grew to maturity. About eight years ago the mother departed to her heavenly home. And a year afterward her daughter, Martha, Mrs. McKee, joined her mother. The remaining children, all of whom are living, were present at the funeral—LaMoille, (Ill.) Gazette.

The deceased, Elijah Little, was a younger brother of William Little, a former well-known citizen and business man of Hacketts-town—E.L.

The Hackettstown Gazette: January 12, 1906

NAME: Elijah Little

DATE OF DEATH: November 25, 1905