

LOUDON RIDGE

following obituary of a native of this place, taken from an Illinois paper, is printed by request:

William G. Leavitt, the oldest citizen of this place (Hammond, Ill.) and one of the oldest in Platt county, died at his home here Friday, December 13, 1907, aged 82 years, 3 months and 4 days.

Deceased had been in very poor health for the past few years, and his death had been expected at any time. He was always very feeble, but was frequently seen upon the streets and always in good spirits. He was a kind-hearted, generous old gentleman and will be greatly missed.

Funeral services were held at the Methodist church, Monday morning at 10 o'clock, conducted by Rev. I. M. Hoel, the First Christian church of Tuscola, who took for text Romans, 8. The 19th Psalm was read as a scripture lesson. Rev. Jesse E. Hart, of the Baptist church, also officiated in prayer.

The remains were then borne to the Fork Christian church, where a service was sung and prayer offered, at which they were viewed by the family for the last time. Interment there made in the Harshbarger cemetery.

OBITUARY.

William G. Leavitt was born September 13, 1825 at Andover, New Hampshire, and departed this life at the family residence in this place, Friday, December 13, 1907, aged 82 years, 3 months and 4 days.

Deceased was converted at the age of 11 years, was baptized either in 1836 or 1856, and united with the Second Advent church, in 1859 or 1860. Of him it can truly be said, "Faithful unto Death." Family prayer, return-thanks at table and Godly topics were the habits of his life. He left a testimony that he was ready for life beyond.

Deceased was three times married. He was first united in marriage to Mary F. Kimball (who was Miss Mary F. French, before her marriage to Stephen Kimball), Nov. 26, 1846, at Loudon Ridge, N. H. His second marriage was to Mrs. Mary T. Osgood, at Springfield, N. H., and his third marriage was to Mrs. Mary P. Coe at this place.

By his first marriage he was brought a stepson, Stephen S. Kimball, and that union were also born four daughters and six sons. Deceased is survived by his wife, four daughters and four sons, two sons having died in infancy. Also one stepson and one granddaughter.

Fifty grandchildren have been born to his children, thirty-seven of whom are living with thirty great-grandchildren.

His surviving children are Mrs. Sarah L. Batchelder of Ghmanton, N. H., Mrs. Hannah E. Sleeper of Nashville, Kans., Mrs. Maggie L. Smith of Pilton, N. H., Mrs. Abbie Moomau of Urbana, Ill., J. William Leavitt of this place, J. Herbert Leavitt of Atwood, Ill., Harry W. Leavitt of Paris, Mo., Luther M. Leavitt of Lewistown, Ill., a stepson, Stephen S. Kimball of Tilton, N. H., and stepdaughter, Mrs. Julia Sargent of Milford, Ind., and daughter of Mary P. Coe.

Deceased removed from New Hampshire with his family about Dec. 1, 1866, after two years in Menard county, Illinois, moving to the farm now occupied by James Ponder in October, 1870, where he resided until his removal to his late residence in this place in 1891.

He began active life at the age of 14, by entering a blacksmith shop to learn the trade under his father. He worked at his trade in Boston, Mass., during a part of his nineteenth year, entering into business for himself at the age of 20. His struggle for success was stern and hard, but by hard work he won, in time, a home and farm, where he worked about twenty-five years at his trade.

A peculiar coincidence is that the funeral services were held just sixteen years to the day after his last marriage.

Fixed on this ground will I remain,
Though my heart fail, and flesh decay;
This anchor shall my soul sustain,
When earth's foundations melt away;
Mercy's full power I then shall prove,
Loved with an ever-lasting love.

LOUDON RIDGE

E. H. Sleeper has taken the cows of Mrs. Olive J. Greene, to keep for the winter.

Wednesday, at one o'clock p. m., Mrs. Henrietta P. (Batchelder) Stevens died at the State Hospital, Concord. She had been insane for years, and this was the second time she had been in the hospital. The immediate cause of death was acute nephritis. Realizing that her end was near, she made arrangements for her funeral, selecting as the text, "She hath done what she could." The last rites were performed at one in the afternoon, Sunday. The choir sang "The Best Friend to Have is Jesus," "Lead Kindly Light," and "Rock of Ages." The bearers were Messrs. Charles and Frank Kenney, Jonathan Diamond and Emery Wyman. The undertakers were Lane and Mudgett of Concord. Rev. E. S. Moulton's sermon was an effective appeal for charity, justice and humble faithfulness. The interment was made by the side of her late husband, in the Ridge cemetery. She was born 62 years ago, the daughter of William and Mary (Sargent) Batchelder. She always lived in Loudon. Her husband was Moses Stevens, and her two children, Minnie, now the wife of Howard Nelson, Portsmouth, and. She is survived by these, four grandchildren, and a brother, William N. Batchelder of Valhalla, N. Y., and a sister, Mrs. Sarah A. Beardsley of Brock City Falls, N. Y.

News has just come of the death of William G. Leavitt, a native of the town, who has been living for nearly 40 years in Illinois.