

March 1931

LEONIDA MARSHALL BENNETT

Leonida Marshall Bennett was born November 19, 1836, on a farm near Frazeyburg, Ohio, which farm is still in possession of the Bennett family. He departed this life at Tulsa, Oklahoma, Saturday evening, Feb. 19, 1921, aged 81 years and 3 months. He received his education in Martinsburg Academy and Granville College. He enlisted in the Civil War in 1861 and was injured at Ft. Donaldson. He participated in the battles of Shiloh and Corinth. He was discharged Sept. 17, 1862, at Helena, Ark., for disability.

On Nov. 12, 1863, he was united in marriage to Miss Margaret O. Bannon of Licking county, Ohio. In March of 1864 they came to Brooklyn, Iowa. At this time the railroad came no farther west than Iowa City. They lived here until 1907, with the exception of four years which they spent in Montezuma while he was sheriff of Poweshiek county.

Three children came to bless their home: Nellie, now Mrs. O. H. Leonard of Tulsa, Oklahoma; Clara, now Mrs. T. C. Stephenson of Cedar Falls, Iowa, and Willie, whose death occurred in infancy. Mr. Bennett was made a Mason in 1856 and helped later in organizing the lodge in Brooklyn. He was the last charter member.

Mr. Bennett and his wife were converted and united with the Methodist Episcopal church in 1877, during the time of the special meetings conducted by Rev. W. G. Thorn. They took an active part in the church life here in Brooklyn and this always seemed like their church home. They celebrated their golden wedding in Cedar Falls seven years ago.

He is survived by his companion, Mrs. Bennett; two brothers: Joshua, aged 91, of Frazeyburg, Ohio, and George, age 96, of Lee Summit, Mo.; two daughters, six grandchildren and other relatives. According to his request, Bro. Thorn, his pastor forty-four years ago and who took him into the church, was present and preached the funeral sermon. The services were held in the Methodist church in Brooklyn, conducted by the pastor, Rev. John W. Pool. The Masonic order had charge of the service at the grave. — Brooklyn Chronicle.